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Bureau of Land Management**

Burns District Office  
HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West  
Hines, Oregon 97738

June 1995



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# *Burns District Planning Update*

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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

June 1995

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# Planning Update

## Introduction

This is the fifth annual planning update published by the Burns District. We hope you will give us feedback on its content, layout, and usefulness to you.

Along with all other eastern Oregon Bureau of Land Management (BLM) districts, it is our desire to keep you informed on issues, activities, and opportunities we think are important to our publics. More importantly, we are seeking ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our multiple-use management programs. Accordingly, key staff contacts have been identified for the various activities discussed in this annual publication. For general information or comments regarding the Planning Update, please write to the address shown above.

The Andrews Resource Area is now in the initial stages of preparing for a Resource Management Plan (RMP). Efforts include gathering and analyzing resource data, entering the data into the Geographic Information System computer, and building maps. We anticipate formally starting the RMP process in fiscal year 1996.

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## SUMMARY OF WORK 1994/1995 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS

This summary includes 1994 accomplishments and 1995 planned work for the following programs:

Botany  
Cultural Heritage Program  
Ecological Site Inventory  
Fire Management and Fire Suppression  
Fish/Wildlife  
Forestry  
Lands and Realty  
Minerals  
Recreation  
Recreation Maintenance  
Wilderness  
Wild Horses

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### BOTANY

#### 1994 Accomplishments

Field studies continued for the Federally endangered Malheur wirelettuce, *Stephanomeria malheurensis*, under the guidance of the existing recovery plan. Due to the dry year, only 14 plants survived to maturity.

The following four Federal Category 2 candidate plant species were monitored in compliance with Burns District goals and management objectives:

Biddle's lupine, *Lupinus biddlei*; solitary milkvetch, *Astragalus solitarius*; Davis' peppergrass, *Lepidium davisii*; Steens Mountain paintbrush, *Castilleja pilosa* v. *steenensis*.

Field inventories for the Federal Category 2 candidate bastard kentrophyta, *Astragalus tegetarioides*, resulted in finding one-third more acreage than was previously known. All populations surveyed were healthy and vigorous.

Initial monitoring studies were established for Cusick's buckwheat, *Eriogonum cusickii*, also a Federal Category 2 candidate. All known populations were mapped using the Global Positioning System (GPS) which uses satellites to accurately locate areas.



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A Conservation Agreement was developed for Davis' peppergrass, which is managed on both BLM Vale and Burns Districts. This plant, which is only known from certain playa lakebeds in southwest Idaho and about 10 sites in southeast Oregon, is quite sensitive to drought and recreational activities.

Plant species, currently on the State Sensitive plant list, were monitored in several of the Research Natural Areas/Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (RNAs/ACECs) this year.

Seed was collected by BLM personnel from the State Sensitive plant broad-flowered chaenactis, *Chaenactis stevioides*, for use and storage by the Berry Botanic Garden.

Post-wildfire monitoring continued in the Silver Creek RNA/ACEC.

The Pueblo Foothills RNA/ACEC Management Plan was updated to conform to today's standards.

A fence was constructed around the Foster Flat RNA/ACEC to exclude approximately 2,600 acres from livestock and wild horses.

Several botany students and their professor from Linfield College toured the Steens Mountain with Andrews Resource Area and District botanical staff. The main topic for the tour, as part of the student's course work, was to look at vegetation with respect to the specific ecological zones that occur on the mountain.

Two botany-related Challenge Cost-Share projects were completed in 1994. In both projects, the party doing the ground work and writing the reports was The Nature Conservancy (TNC). One project consisted of an inventory of the existing RNAs/ACECs and some ACECs to determine if the location and size of each area is adequate to portray the characteristics for which it was designated. New areas were also inventoried and some nominations for new RNAs and ACECs were submitted. The other project was an inventory for sensitive plants in the Alvord Desert area.

This year, District botany staff activities included considerable coordination with other BLM districts and other agencies on matters of mutual interest. This resulted in joint field surveys for Special Status plant species with other BLM districts and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and a joint Conservation Agreement for a plant species inhabiting both the BLM Burns and Vale Districts. With design and staffing assistance from Ochoco National Forest plant program personnel, the Burns District presented a wildflower exhibit for the annual Harney County Migratory Bird Festival.

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) assisted BLM in several weed eradication projects. They hand pulled over 30,000 Mediterranean sage plants; removed diffuse knapweed from 5 miles and St. Johnswort from one-half mile of the Highway 20 right-of-way; pulled 20 acres of diffuse knapweed in the *Eriogonum cusickii* site; pulled six starthistle plants and 50 acres of Scotch thistle at various sites. In addition, they pulled bull thistles along one-half mile of Rattlesnake Creek and using hoes and shovels helped control Scotch thistle in the Steens Mountain area.

Approximately 66 acres were sprayed for a variety of noxious weeds, including Mediterranean sage, dalmatian toadflax, and knapweed. The District began an aggressive program to encourage all field personnel to identify weed sites, and pull weeds whenever possible.



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Districtwide accomplishments also included a substantial reorganization of the District's herbarium, to improve ease of use for researchers or other interested persons. The herbarium currently houses over 640 species of locally collected plants. Logistical support and plant collections were also provided to Berry Botanic Garden and to Lewis and Clark College for research work on local species.

## 1995 Plans

The study plan outlined for Malheur wirelettuce will be continued. The Conservation Agreement between the BLM and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be updated.

A Conservation Agreement will be prepared for *Eriogonum cusickii* which will incorporate objectives, management actions, and monitoring to be used in the perpetuation of this species. This will be a joint plan including the Lakeview and Burns Districts of the BLM and the USFWS.

Multiple agencies and districts will be involved in the formulation of a Conservation Strategy for *Rorippa columbiae*, Columbia cress, a Federal Category 2 candidate and State candidate. A Challenge Cost-Share project has been established with the Oregon Department of Agriculture to write the strategy. Federal agencies included are BLM Burns, Lakeview, and Spokane Districts, and the Winema National Forest. To support this effort, the existing monitoring studies will be reread and new studies will be initiated. GPS will be used to accurately locate the populations and the Geographic Information System (GIS) computer will be used to produce maps.

Monitoring studies will be initiated for Leiberg's clover, *Trifolium leibergii*, a Federal Category 2 candidate. Inventories will be made in the northeast area of the District to look for Raven's biscuitroot, *Lomatium ravenii*, which occurs in the Malheur National Forest.

Challenge Cost-Share projects have been initiated with TNC to inventory and map vegetation zones in the Foster Flat and Dry Mountain RNAs/ACECs. Management plans will also be prepared for these RNAs.

A program for the control of the noxious weeds, perennial pepperweed, and whitetop, will be undertaken in the Tum Tum Lake RNA/ACEC. The weed control project will be contracted and the results will hopefully be a weed-free RNA.

The OYCC will assist in the District's weed control effort again this year. Specific targets are expected to be Mediterranean sage and Scotch thistle. A spray unit will be acquired to clean equipment to prevent the spread of weeds by vehicles traveling between projects.

The Burns District is increasing coordination efforts with Harney County and the State of Oregon to focus on eradication of weeds in an organized manner.



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# **CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM**

## **1995 Plans**

A management plan for the 1,220-acre Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District is being developed. The plan will provide for administrative measures to preserve those features of the site that made it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Washington State University will continue its paleoenvironmental investigation of a Burns District site and combined field school for archaeology students. Investigation, data recovery and interpretation for a late prehistoric site are being conducted as part of a cost-share partnership agreement.

In celebration of the Oregon Trail Sesquicentennial the State of Oregon's Travel Information Council, Harney County Historical Society, and BLM Burns District are all cooperating to fund and install two interpretive signs along the 1845 Meek's Lost Wagon Train Route and the 1853 Elliot Wagon Train Route.

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# **ECOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY**

## **1994 Accomplishments**

Supervisory control for the six-member Ecological Site Inventory (ESI) crew was transferred to the Lakeview District on October 1, 1994. The crew are still housed in and work out of the Burns District Office, but will be staying in field camps for the summer inventory season. This brings to an end 14 years of range and soil inventory for the Burns District. The 1994 summer field season was spent filling range data gaps on Burns District Federal lands that were previously mapped by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and isolated tracks mapped by the BLM. Time was also spent compiling ESI range data for use in Andrews Resource Area allotment evaluations and the upcoming Malheur-Jordan-Andrews Resource Management Plan (RMP).

## **1995 Plans**

The ESI crew will begin mapping range and soils starting in the north part of the Warner Valley of Lake County, progressing west and north. It is planned to inventory 360,000 acres this summer. The NRCS and members of the ESI crew will be conducting a training session to familiarize District resource personnel on how ESI information is collected, put together, and how it can be used. Training sessions are planned for the Lakeview District in June and for the Burns District in October.



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# **FIRE MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SUPPRESSION**

## **1994 Accomplishments**

The Burns District recorded 48 wildfires with a total burned area of 10,114 acres. Of these 48 fires, 33 were lightning-caused, burning 7,293 acres and 15 were human-caused burning a total of 2,821 acres. These numbers represent an 8 percent reduction in the number of fires and a 66 percent reduction in acres burned, when compared to the 10-year average for the District.

The District assisted the national fire effort by providing fire suppression engines and crews, miscellaneous overhead personnel, and air support. This included 21 engine assignments for a total of 110 days, 23 overhead assignments for 230 days, and 6 helicopter assignments for 12 days.

Fire personnel completed the following tasks on resource improvement projects when not involved directly with fire presuppression and suppression efforts:

- 2 prescribed burning projects, 200 acres (hazard reduction)
- 13 fencing projects
- 4 recreation maintenance projects
- 3 clean-up projects
- 3 facilities maintenance projects
- 3 fire rehabilitation projects
- 1 road maintenance project

## **1995 Plans**

The 1995 Fire Suppression Program is expected to be at or near the previous year's organization strength with eight engine crews, one helicopter and crew, two lookouts, logistics operation, and four overhead positions.

Interagency coordination and cooperation will continue with operation of the interagency guard station at Frenchglen, the interagency engine in Burns, the sharing of costs for the Dry Mountain Lookout, and the creation of an interagency fire cache located in the BLM warehouse yard compound. The Burns District has entered into an interim cooperative arrangement with the Ochoco National Forest's Snow Mountain Ranger District to consolidate fire management operations of the USFS and BLM at the BLM Burns District Office in Hines. Fire suppression activities of the two agencies are now supervised by one Fire Management Officer, currently a USFS employee, Doug Ledgerwood. In addition, the opportunity to create an Interagency Dispatch Facility has been realized, with the creation of the Burns Interagency Communications Center, which will have fire dispatch responsibilities for the Snow Mountain Ranger District, BLM Burns District, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, and Oregon Department of Forestry.



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# FISH/WILDLIFE

## 1994 Accomplishments

Thirty miles of aquatic habitat were inventoried along the Donner und Blitzen River, and Home, Three Mile, and Skull Creeks to evaluate physical, chemical, and biological parameters affecting redband trout habitat. Streams along the east side of the Steens Mountain and in the Pueblo Mountains were monitored to assess impacts of land use practices on Lahontan cutthroat trout habitat from land use practices.

BLM again participated with TNC and U.S. National Biological Service in the annual census of the endangered Borax Lake chub as part of establishment of a baseline population level for future monitoring.

The Stinkingwater ecosystem project was undertaken; however, due to high fire danger, work was stopped and completion will take place in 1995. This is a Challenge Cost-Share project with Wilber Brothers Ranch, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to create a riparian pasture and remove juniper trees from two aspen groves. A Challenge Cost-Share project was completed with ODFW to install three cattleguards in the Jack Creek Pasture to alleviate open gate problems.

The Tudor Canyon Cooperative Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project was completed. Snow Mountain Pine, Ltd., was the cooperator on this project which resulted in the harvest of 23,200 board feet of ponderosa pine that had invaded an aspen grove and was causing aspen to die out as a result of competition for water and soil nutrients. Slash from the harvested timber was used to inhibit wildlife and livestock use of aspen suckers.

The Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center continued a cooperative study with the BLM to determine the extent of cattle utilization of bitterbrush seedlings. The at-risk youth work crew realigned one-quarter mile of fence at Bigfoot Reservoir to alleviate a continual fence maintenance problem. Ducks Unlimited contributed in-kind engineering expertise on a Challenge Cost-Share basis for survey and design of three wetland developments - North Catlow Valley, West Chain Lake, and West Seiloff Dike Reconstruction. Under a Challenge Cost-Share agreement with Ducks Unlimited, a preliminary survey and design was completed for the North Catlow Wetlands Project. Survey and design should be completed soon and the project implemented by 1996 or 1997.

An inventory was conducted on a total of 100,000 acres for nesting ferruginous hawks, nesting burrowing owls, and Preble's shrews. Long-term monitoring stations for neotropical migrant landbirds were established on Stinkingwater, Emigrant, and Silver Creeks. Monitoring also occurred at 5 wetland areas, 8 riparian areas, 15 browse study sites, 3 fire recovery sites, 2 juniper removal sites, bald eagle winter roosts, and sage grouse leks.

Challenge Cost-Share funds were provided by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, ODFW, and a livestock permittee to control western juniper on 890 acres of public land on the north end of Steens Mountain. An additional 310 acres of juniper were controlled using BLM and Harney County funds. Juniper removal on these particular sites will allow an increase in forage and cover important to many wildlife species.



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Dr. David Kerley of Eastern Oregon State College donated 120 hours to inventory small mammals on juniper-treated sites and adjacent uncut areas. He found increased numbers of animals in previously cutover areas. Maurita Smyth donated over 100 hours to inventory reptiles in the Alvord Desert and Sheephead Mountains. Ellis Mason and John Womak seeded 30 acres of deer winter range to browse, near Webbs Spring Canyon.

Monitoring efforts concentrated on riparian, meadow, bitterbrush, curleaf mahogany and aspen types in the Steens, Trout Creek, and Pueblo Mountains. Inventory was completed on 3 miles of riparian habitat in the headwaters of Home Creek and 40,000 acres of sage grouse habitat on Steens Mountain. An additional 20,000 acres of sage grouse habitat will be inventoried on Steens Mountain to locate sage grouse strutting grounds (leks).

An OYCC crew constructed two exclosures near Moon Hill, totaling 80 acres, to allow restoration of a meadow and for a place to conduct research. During the summer of 1994, human-caused fires and wildfires burned over 4,000 acres of deer winter range on the east side of Steens Mountain and the east and west sides of the Pueblo Mountains. Five hundred and ninety acres were seeded to improve soil stability and improve wildlife habitat. All burned areas will be rested from grazing for at least 2 years.

## 1995 Plans

The District consulted with the USFWS on the impacts of livestock grazing on Lahontan cutthroat trout in the Van Horn drainage (Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment) and seven streams on the east face of Steens Mountain (Alvord and Mann Lake Allotments). Monitoring of the riparian and aquatic habitat will be conducted as described in the biological opinions.

The BLM also continues to coordinate with the USFWS and to monitor impacts of livestock grazing on Lahontan cutthroat trout in the Denio Creek drainage (BLM Winnemucca's Pueblo Mountain Allotment) in accordance with the Section 7 Biological Opinion issued in 1993.

The District, TNC, USFWS, and ODFW will work on a joint management plan for the Borax Lake ecosystem, comprised of public and private (TNC) lands. The District will continue coordinating and participating in the long-term monitoring and baseline research on the Borax Lake chub. Six thousand dollars is being contributed by TNC.

The Nature Conservancy is contributing \$6,500 toward a Challenge Cost-Share project to inventory riparian vegetative communities along the public reaches of Home, Skull, and Three Mile Creeks, and Roaring Springs Ditch, as part of an assessment to determine if relationships exist between types of riparian communities and Catlow tui chub, a Federal candidate species. The data from this project will also be used for ground-truthing results of the riparian aerial videography method of monitoring riparian areas.

Water temperature and water quality monitoring will be conducted on the Donner und Blitzen Wild and Scenic River segments; Home, Three Mile, Van Horn, and Denio Creeks; two of the seven Lahontan cutthroat streams on the east slopes of Steens Mountain; Stinkingwater, Silver, and Riddle Creeks; and the Middle Fork Malheur River.



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Aquatic habitat inventory will be conducted in the Donner und Blitzen drainage, upper Middle Fork Malheur River, and Bluebucket Creek.

Emphasis will be placed on collecting additional inventory and monitoring data on streams on the north end of Steens Mountain and monitoring throughout the Andrews Resource Area. A low-flying aircraft will take color infrared videography along 100 miles of streams for the purpose of monitoring condition of riparian habitat. Volunteers are needed to modify an exclosure fence around Shipley Spring and to improve wildlife access to water. An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be prepared on the proposal of ODFW to release ruffed grouse on Steens Mountain. ODFW and BLM will reconstruct the Tule Rim wildlife guzzler. The BLM will use cut juniper trees to improve bank stability and filter sediment in the East Fork of Krumbo Creek.

Scheduled monitoring for 1995 includes wetland areas, water quality sampling on selected streams, browse transects, bald eagle roosts, upland project photo plots, snowy plover nest areas, sage grouse leks, western burrowing owl nesting habitat, and neotropical migrant landbird point count areas. Inventory of northern goshawk, ferruginous hawk, and spotted frog habitat will be conducted.

A 2-mile fence will be constructed to facilitate 5 years of livestock nonuse on a 1.5-mile section of Buzzard Creek. Following the rest, the area will be grazed in a manner that will promote continued riparian recovery. One-half mile of fence will be constructed to exclude livestock use from Ross Spring to promote improved wetland vegetation and to increase waterbird use.

Reconstruction of West Seiloff Dike will be accomplished this year. This 15-year old "push up" dike has numerous leaks and will be replaced with a compacted dike and riser board water control structure for water management. This is a Challenge Cost-Share project with ODFW and Ducks Unlimited. Also, the OYCC will construct a 150-foot pole fence at Seiloff Dikes to alleviate a continual fence maintenance problem. A big game guzzler will be constructed in the Chandler Butte area and is a Challenge Cost-Share project with ODFW.

A cooperative study to determine cattle use on bitterbrush seedlings will continue with the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center. Aerial videography data for 250 miles of streamside riparian habitat will be acquired. This new technology shows good promise for improving the effectiveness of riparian monitoring at a substantial cost savings.



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# FORESTRY

## 1994 Accomplishment

A timber sale of 20,000 board feet was carried out to remove individual hazard trees along U.S. Highway 395 and other main travel routes. A 131-acre precommercial thinning and slash treatment project was completed in the Silvies Valley. Forest health problems continue to be a concern in localized areas. Demand for special forest products continues to be high, but fire prevention restrictions reduced the harvest of juniper boughs this year. The OYCC crew maintained vexar tubes and mulch mats on about 200 acres of tree plantation in the 1990 Pine Springs burn area.

An examination of the white fir stand in Little Fir Creek on Steens Mountain was conducted and serious forest health problems were found.

## 1995 Plans

Priorities for 1995 are to salvage fire-killed timber and to attempt to improve the health of our forest ecosystems. Interagency efforts are underway to analyze and implement salvage sales on the Potatoe Flat and Jordan Springs areas that burned in the summer of 1994. Approximately 25,000 and 255,000 board feet of timber, respectively, are proposed for salvage.

Seedling survival will be evaluated in the tree plantations established in the Pine Springs burn area. An examination of the health of our forested ecosystems will be conducted to determine areas in critical need of treatment. A contract timber cruise will be conducted at the Eagle Picher Mine site near Drewsey. Environmental analysis of the proposed South Silvies Cow Creek and Gus' Well Timber Sales has been delayed due to the time required for the Potatoe Flat and Jordan Springs projects.

Special forest products including juniper boughs, posts, and firewood will continue to be provided as a service to the public.

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# LANDS AND REALTY

## 1994 Accomplishments

Four road use agreements were processed for short-term authorizations to haul private timber across existing roads on public land. One such road use request facilitated a unique opportunity for cooperation between the BLM, Snow Mountain Pine, Ltd., and a private landowner. The cooperative effort resulted in improving aspen/meadow habitat on public lands while allowing for timber harvest on adjacent private lands.



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All realty-related land use activities were monitored to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the appropriate permits. Several Public Water Reserves, which were established early in the century, were reviewed to determine if they continue to fulfill stated objectives. These withdrawals protected lands containing important springs and waterholes from disposal under the various public land laws. During this review process, it was discovered that some of the withdrawals affect lands where no water source exists or where the water source is not considered "important" under today's definitions. The withdrawals on these lands will be lifted so that the lands will not be encumbered and will be available for multiple-use management.

The BLM continued its efforts to work cooperatively with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to develop agreements for land management activities on lands administered by the two agencies around Warm Springs Reservoir. The BLM assisted Harney County to develop a management plan for solid waste disposal in the rural areas of the County. Tasks included developing alternatives and reviewing a draft plan for solid waste management. New regulations affecting solid waste disposal may require the County to close its existing rural landfills which could result in an increase in the potential for illegal dumping and littering on public lands.

A land exchange was completed with Nevin and Shirley Thompson wherein BLM acquired 640 acres of valuable recreation values on private land within the Steens Mountain Recreation Area and 3,310 acres of public land just south of Princeton, Oregon were deeded to the Thompsons. Two proposals for land exchanges were received, one with Charlie Otley would bring privately-owned land adjacent to the Kiger Gorge Wilderness Study Area (WSA) into public ownership. The other proposed exchange is with Tom Davis Livestock, Inc., and includes private land with unique natural resource values around Mickey Hot Springs and Tule Springs, and adjacent to the Stonehouse WSA.

The final appraisal was completed on the Petersen Exchange. The appraisal showed that relative land values between Federal and private lands are approximately equal. This allowed the exchange to move forward through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analytical process. The Record of Decision was signed and a Notice of Decision distributed to affected parties with no protests being received. The exchange is expected to be completed after the estate of one of the proponents has been settled. A centerline survey using GPS technology was completed for a road easement associated with the Petersen Exchange. This was the first use of this technology for this purpose in the District and should expedite similar efforts in the future.

Progress on the Ponderosa Exchange included a preliminary title investigation, completion of the mineral report, and finalization of the land and timber appraisal. The proponents and BLM have agreed that land values, as determined by the appraisal, are acceptable and further processing of the exchange can now continue.

Two new exchanges, the Smith and Root Exchanges, were initiated and work on these efforts included developing exchange agreements, publication and circulation of a Notice of Exchange Proposal, and completion of cultural and botanical clearances.

Negotiations for other possible future exchange efforts have been undertaken. One such negotiating effort is with a local realtor to facilitate complex multi-party exchanges. This would provide the BLM with the unique opportunity to package several smaller, lower priority exchanges, acquisitions, and land disposals into a single economical land exchange that would benefit the public as well as the private sector.



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Activities have begun to prepare isolated scattered tracts of public land for possible sale. Specific progress toward this goal includes identifying and selecting tracts and resource clearance work. Land sales are normally low-priority workload on a Bureauwide basis. Little funding has been received in the past few years for this type of land adjustment activity. However, concerns about the erosion of Harney County's tax base due to Federal land acquisition, identification of approximately 36,000 acres for disposal in the Three Rivers RMP, and continuing public demand for sales has provided the District with renewed emphasis to process some land sales.

## 1995 Plans

Right-of-way and land use permit applications will continue to be processed as they are received and unauthorized use dealt with as it is discovered. It is anticipated that right-of-way activity will remain stable. Road use for private log hauling may decrease somewhat due to the sawmill closure in Hines. Rights-of-way and other land uses will be monitored to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permits.

It is planned to complete a Memorandum of Understanding which will document agreements between the BLM and BOR concerning management of lands adjacent to Warm Springs Reservoir. The District will continue to assist Harney County in developing strategies for solid waste management in rural areas of the County. If the County chooses to close existing sites, the BLM will work with the County to ensure that closure requirements prescribed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are followed and land is restored to as near its original condition as is possible.

The Petersen Exchange should be completed in 1995, subject to the outcome of the settlement of the estate of one of the proponents. The EA and decision to pursue the first phase of the Ponderosa Exchange is planned for this Fiscal Year (FY). The first phase would involve exchanging lands found to contain no cultural values or other significant resource concerns. Additional cultural resource investigations are planned this field season to determine the significance of several sites located on the remainder of the Federal lands proposed for exchange. These lands would not be exchanged until a later phase after the cultural resource significance is determined and mitigated.

Processing of the Smith Exchange has been halted pending a decision by the proponent to proceed with a previously agreed upon proposal. Barring any difficulties, completion of the Root Exchange could occur this year. Remaining processing steps in this exchange include NEPA review, decision documentation, title clearance, and closing. Negotiations will continue with several exchange proponents for out-year processing.



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The following parcels are being considered for sale in FY95:

Willamette Meridian

T. 18 S., R. 33½ E., Section 22, SW¼SW¼.	40.00 acres
T. 19 S., R. 33½ E., Section 14, SE¼SW¼.	40.00 acres
T. 20 S., R. 34 E., Section 13, NE¼SE¼NE¼.	10.00 acres
T. 24 S., R. 29 E., Section 2, SW¼SW¼.	40.00 acres
T. 24 S., R. 34 E., Section 20, SW¼NE¼, W½SE¼.	20.00 acres
T. 24 S., R. 34 E., Section 20, N½NW¼.	80.00 acres
T. 25 S., R. 31 E., Section 17, SE¼SE¼.	40.00 acres
T. 25 S., R. 34 E., Section 18, E½E½.	160.00 acres
T. 26 S., R. 29 E., Section 1, Lots 2, 3, SW¼NE¼, SE¼NW¼.	159.36 acres
T. 26 S., R. 29 E., Section 2, SE¼SE¼.	40.00 acres
T. 39 S., R. 36 E., Section 30, Lots 2, 3, 4, SW¼NE¼, SE¼NW¼, E½SW¼, W½SE¼.	360.17 acres
Total	989.53 acres

It is anticipated that only about half of the acreage considered for sale will actually be offered this year because of the discovery of cultural resources or other special values requiring protection and retention in Federal ownership. This effort is also contingent upon other workload priorities and commitments. An additional 1,000 acres would be screened, selected, and clearance work completed for possible sale in FY96.

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## MINERALS

### 1994 Accomplishments

During the first part of FY94, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation drilled two geothermal exploration wells and deepened an existing exploration well to 2,500 feet in the Alvord Valley near Fields. They also conducted a 4-hour flow test at each of the two new wells. In a letter to the editor of the Oregonian on November 26, 1994, they stated that they have acquired extensive data indicating their geothermal reservoir and Borax Lake are fed by separate sources of hot water. BLM has not received any further Plans of Operation from Anadarko for their leaseholdings.



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In June, BLM compiled a list of active mining claimants in the Burns District and plotted the locations of their claims on a map. As of that date, there were 1,286 active claims on public land within the Burns District. Three claimants provided notices to Burns District in FY94, one each for zeolite exploration, gold exploration, and thunder egg mining.

During July 1994, BLM hosted a 1-day meeting and a 4-day field trip for geologists from the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Bureau of Mines, Oregon State University, Portland State University, and other schools and agencies. The purpose was to familiarize geologists with each other's work in the Andrews Resource Area and coordinate and review preliminary geological input for the Malheur-Jordan-Andrews RMP. During the year, some time was spent in the field with six of these researchers to help them get oriented, review areas of concern, and maintain familiarity with their work.

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc., continues to remove diatomite from their mine on the Harney/Malheur County line. Approximately 35 percent of their production is from Federal land.

Five permits were issued to Harney County residents for purchase of decorative stone and sand and gravel. Sales continued to Harney Rock and Paving Company for mineral materials on County-owned land where the Federal government owns the mineral estate. Three free-use permits were issued to public agencies for mineral materials on public lands. The Harney County Road Department reported using 88,000 cubic yards of rock from sources on BLM-administered public land.

Compliance inspections were conducted for all mineral activities.

## 1995 Plans

Most of the District's mineral emphasis will be on data gathering and coordination with the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Bureau of Mines in preparation for the Malheur-Jordan-Andrews RMP, and on preparing mineral reports for proposed land exchanges.

The Burns District will provide support for a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey plans to begin work on a geology brochure for Steens Mountain.

Burns District personnel will complete botanical and archaeological clearances as needed for exploratory drilling by Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc., on their claim block.

BLM will continue to coordinate and participate in long-term monitoring and baseline research at Borax Lake, and conduct compliance inspections for all mineral activities.

Preparation of development and reclamation plans for materials sources on public land will continue, as time allows.



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# RECREATION

## 1994 Accomplishments

A 4-inch gravel layer (lift) was placed on approximately 18 miles of the north segment of the Steens Mountain Loop Road, beginning at Page Springs. Construction started on the South Steens Campground, located about 2½ miles east of Blitzen Crossing on the south segment of the Steens Mountain Loop Road.

A series of old ways or vehicle trails located in the upper elevations of Steens Mountain were physically closed by placing boulders to block vehicle access. Several of the parking areas at wayside overlooks were outlined with boulders to control vehicle use. Signs throughout the Andrews Resource Area were upgraded and refurbished to provide improved information for the public. The District has begun the development of a camping and hiking brochure. A visitor use analysis of the Mickey Hot Springs was completed.

Harney County made a request to the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation to establish Chickahominy Reservoir as a new State Park with facilities to accommodate the traveling public at the level of other State Park fee areas. The Burns District cooperated with Harney County to secure funding, write a grant application, and develop a Request For Proposal to contract for a feasibility study to consider Chickahominy (or any other recreation site in Harney County) for State Park status if the requirements were met.

The District is also a cooperating member of a steering committee formed to develop a multi-agency visitor center in Burns. The center would be at the hub of scenic, historic, and cultural sites and would provide orientation for visitors to Harney County and southeastern Oregon. Partners in this endeavor are the BLM, Harney County Court, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, Cities of Burns and Hines, USFS, USFWS, the Burns Paiute Tribe, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Portal signs with native stone bases were designed in cooperation with the USFS for the Devine Canyon Scenic Corridor north of Burns. The signs will be installed in the canyon in FY95. A map of the north half of the Burns District was completed and is now available for sale at the District Office. It provides recreation information, location of important roads, and land status. Recreation maps are now available that cover the entire area of public land administered by the Burns District.

The Burns District continues to coordinate with the Vale District and the Desert Trail Association to establish a trail route through the northeastern corner of the District, up to where the trail enters the Malheur National Forest near the North Fork Malheur River. When the EA and the trail route are finalized, BLM will complete development of trailheads and placement of signs.

The OYCC completed a cleanup project near Radar Hill, an area close to Burns and Hines, where dumping of household and yard refuse has occurred. With the closing of the local dump and changing to a transfer site with higher fees, an increase in indiscriminate dumping is anticipated in this area.



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## 1995 Plans

Improvement of the Steens Mountain Loop Road will continue by placing a mixture of crushed rock and 2 percent bentonite clay binder to protect the road surface, keep gravel in place, and reduce long-term maintenance costs. Construction will continue this spring on the South Steens Campground, with an expected completion date of August 1, 1995. Ways no longer serving a useful purpose will continue to be closed on Steens Mountain. Parking areas at wayside overlooks will be improved, barriers located to protect adjacent wilderness values, and information signs will be installed. Signs throughout the District will be upgraded. Volunteers will be asked to help complete the Burns District camping and hiking brochure this summer.

Two interpretive sites will be designed for Diamond Craters, one near the County road which traverses the area and the other at Lava Pit Craters, a well-known stop on the Diamond Craters auto tour guide. This tour guide will be reprinted this year.

The District will continue to contribute toward completing the next steps for building a visitor center in Burns, along with the other partners in this endeavor. Tasks to be completed this year include the production of a master plan, development of an operational concept, development of the interpretive theme, and completion of research for the interpretive exhibits.

If the feasibility study for Chickahominy Reservoir/Recreation Site (to be completed this summer by Harney County) indicates the area meets the criteria for a State Park, the District will cooperate in developing a plan whereby the State and the County become the primary managers of the recreation area in cooperation with ODFW and BLM. If the study indicates otherwise, the District will continue to manage Chickahominy Recreation Site and will proceed with the goal to improve recreation facilities.

Use of the public lands by groups is increasing, particularly by colleges and universities affiliated with or utilizing the facilities at Malheur Field Station. As a first step in determining the number of groups and quantity of use the public land can accommodate, a letter was sent to the various recreational and educational users, notifying them of the need to coordinate their activities with BLM. The District must determine whether Special Recreation Use Permits (SRUPs) will be required in the future in order for the many groups to continue their operations. A system will be developed to monitor permittee operations, to provide a means to obtain research data for future planning and management, to check areas for impacts, and to compile visitor use data.

Cleanup of the Radar Hill area will be completed by the OYCC as a continuing volunteer effort to improve the appearance of the public lands near the towns of Burns and Hines.



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# RECREATION MAINTENANCE

## 1994 Accomplishments

This was the second year Chickahominy Reservoir has held water since the long-term drought. Visitation increased significantly over the previous year. Rainbow trout were stocked by ODFW and the fishery produced outstanding results. Because of the increased use, two new Rom-Tec toilets were installed at Chickahominy Recreation Site to replace obsolete vault toilets. The picnic table shades and the fish cleaning station were repainted.

A Rom-Tec toilet was installed near the north end of Warm Springs Reservoir. The carved wooden trailhead sign at the Sagehen Nature Trail was refurbished and new directional signs were installed at Diamond Craters.

Construction began on developments for the Diamond Loop Back Country Byway through a partnership with Harney County, the USFWS, and Oregon Department of Transportation. Funds provided from a Federal Highway Administration grant under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 covered some of the costs.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge to construct an interpretive pull-out on refuge land near the junction of Diamond Lane and State Highway 205. Sign bases faced with native stone were constructed at locations on the north and south ends of the Steens Mountain Loop Road, a National Back Country Byway. Two interpretive pull-outs were designed and the Harney County Road Department built the one located at the north end of the byway loop near Princeton. Interpretive panels to be placed in kiosks were designed and a byway brochure was also designed and printed.

## 1995 Plans

Picnic tables at Chickahominy Recreation Site will be replaced and some additional fire rings installed. In coordination with ODFW, interior roads will be maintained to upgrade secondary roads going to the upper portion of the reservoir on State property. Additional facilities will not be provided until Oregon State Park status is determined later in 1995.

Construction of facilities along byways will continue with Harney County to build the south end pull-out. Finishing touches (perimeter fencing, vehicle parking area and interior signing) will also be completed. Interpretive kiosks on byways will be erected on concrete pads and interpretive panels installed. The Diamond Loop Back Country Byway brochure will be reprinted because of continuing demand. Dedication of the byway is planned for the fall or later the following year in early summer.



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# WILDERNESS

The destiny of each WSA administered by the BLM rests with Congress. The BLM has accomplished all Congressionally-mandated reporting requirements established in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Until Congress acts, WSAs under BLM jurisdiction will be managed according to Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review. The following are the primary guidelines that BLM follows in order to protect and enhance wilderness values in all WSAs:

Interim Management Policy (IMP), General Rule: The only activities permissible in WSAs are temporary uses. Temporary uses are activities that create no new surface disturbance, do not require reclamation, nor involve permanent placement of structures. If authorized, such temporary uses may continue until Congress acts, as long as such uses can easily and immediately be terminated at the time of wilderness designation.

The only exceptions permitted to the above general rule are:

1. Emergencies such as suppression activities associated with fires or search and rescue operations;
2. Activities which are considered grandfathered or valid existing rights under the IMP;
3. Reclamation activities designed to minimize impact to wilderness values created by IMP violations;
4. Activities that protect or enhance the land's wilderness values. Projects that may be considered to enhance wilderness values in a portion of the WSA but are anticipated to create degradation of wilderness values overall or to other portions of the WSA should not be approved.

## 1994 Accomplishments

Interim management continued on each of the District's 23 WSAs. Activities include physically checking each WSA a minimum of once each month, when accessible, to ensure wilderness values were not impaired. Both ground and aerial surveillance methods were utilized to perform this mandatory monitoring. Interim management surveillance plans are updated annually to ensure coverage is fully achieved. Monitoring and compliance field checks were conducted throughout the field season in all WSAs.

Proposed projects in WSAs were evaluated to determine consistency with BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review.

An EA was completed and approved to close and rehabilitate two short dead-end vehicle routes in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA.

An EA was completed and approved to reclaim two old abandoned mines in the Pueblo Mountains and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSAs.



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Two EAs were completed to rehabilitate three wildfires that primarily burned within the High Steens (2-85F), Pueblo Mountains (2-81), and Rincon (2-82) WSAs.

A required Districtwide WSA surveillance report, along with a program summary, was completed.

Old garbage was removed from Colony Creek within the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA.

Sites disturbed by off-highway vehicle use and other illegal surface-disturbing activities were rehabilitated within the East Alvord (2-73A), Mahogany Ridge (2-77), and Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSAs.

Expanded public outreach efforts focused on providing better identification of WSA boundaries, more information on WSA constraints, and increased education of visitors by promoting "Leave No Trace" camping and hiking techniques. Outreach efforts included the following actions:

- Brochures and other outdoor educational material were distributed to the public to promote positive hiking, camping and back country driving land use ethics.

- Further coordination (scoping) occurred with the public regarding the development of an interagency wilderness activity and comic book for children.

- WSA boundary signs were placed and/or replaced as needed.

- Additional information stations were located at trailheads on WSA boundaries where visitor use is heavy, including low-profile trailhead signs, visitor registration materials, and "Leave No Trace" information material.

- A wilderness exhibit was displayed in the Public Room at the Burns District Office during the spring.

- A Wilderness Public Outreach and In-Reach Plan was begun, but was not completed.

Volunteers in the Wilderness Program made significant contributions to help protect and enhance wilderness values, as well as to provide in-office support. Approximately 180 hours were contributed by volunteers to help complete the following projects:

- Tabulation of computer-based WSA monitoring/surveillance data.

- Clean-up of trash at an old fallen down cabin, along with debris from an old mining operation, in the High Steens (2-85F) WSA.

- Reclamation of areas damaged by illegal off-highway use.

- Meeting the public to distribute information and talk about WSA restrictions and principles of "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" camping.



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## 1995 Plans

Interim management of each of the District's WSAs will continue, including field surveillance and compliance activities. Proposed projects in WSAs will be evaluated to determine consistency with BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review. Proposed activities include:

Implementation of the actions approved in an EA to close and rehabilitate two short dead-end vehicle routes in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA.

Implementation of the actions approved in an EA to reclaim two old abandoned mines in the Alvord Peak (2-83) and Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA.

Removal of old, unneeded fences will continue within WSAs. Potential fence removal projects exist in the Rincon (2-82), Little Blitzen River (2-86F), and South Fork of the Donner und Blitzen River (2-85G) WSAs.

Volunteers will again be asked to help with all interim management activities.

Old trash found in the High Steens (2-85F) WSA will be hauled out by helicopter. Vehicles will be used to haul old trash from the West Peak (2-72J) and Alvord Desert (2-74) WSAs to the nearest dump facility.

An EA will be prepared for Mickey Hot Springs for actions to better protect and enhance this special feature found in the East Alvord (2-73A) WSA (also see EA Register at the end of this publication for more information on this project).

Past illegal surface-disturbing activities in the Alvord Desert (2-74) WSA will be reclaimed by utilizing OYCC crews.

Visitor use data will be recorded in WSAs receiving a high level of visitor use. Whether or not these areas are designated wilderness at some future time, this data will still be useful in order to apply desired management.

An agreement will be developed for those WSAs that are split between the Burns and Vale Districts, to ensure surveillance/monitoring responsibilities are properly carried out.

After a wildfire in 1991, a temporary fence was erected to protect a riparian area in the Arizona Creek drainage, within the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA. This fence is scheduled to be removed this year.

Public outreach efforts will be expanded by focusing on better identification of WSA boundaries and toward increased education of visitors in "Leave No Trace" camping and hiking techniques.



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Two WSA brochures will be initiated as a joint district project between the Burns and Vale Districts. One brochure will emphasize the Trout Creek Mountains and the other will be a general brochure about WSAs in southeastern Oregon. The objectives of these brochures are to educate the public about WSAs, inform people of constraints that exist in these special management areas, and to explain and encourage the use of "Leave No Trace" principles.

Brochures and other outdoor educational material will be distributed to the public to promote positive hiking, camping, and back country driving land use ethics. This material was developed by the "National Outdoor Leadership School - Leave No Trace Office," and "Tread Lightly" organizations.

Work will continue on the wilderness comic and activity book for children. Partnerships will be explored, scoping will continue, further coordination is needed, and an Interdisciplinary (ID) Team will be formed.

Efforts to place signs along WSA boundaries will continue.

Additional information stations will be located at important trailheads on WSA boundaries, including low-profile trailhead signs, visitor registration materials, and "Leave No Trace" information. Existing information stations will be maintained.

A wilderness display exhibit is scheduled to again be located in the Burns District Public Room during April and May.

A Wilderness Public Outreach and In-reach Plan is scheduled to be completed.

A slide presentation explaining and promoting "Leave No Trace" is scheduled to be developed. Articles promoting the "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" concepts will be submitted to various organizations who produce newsletters.

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## **WILD HORSES**

### **1994 Accomplishments**

Oregon's Adopt-A-Horse Program was very successful during 1994. A total of 278 wild horses and 6 burros were adopted in Oregon and Washington.

The Burns District, in cooperation with the Spokane District, held a satellite adoption in Odessa, Washington. A total of 31 horses were adopted during the event.



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A total of 274 horses and 3 burros were adopted at the Burns Wild Horse Corrals. One hundred twenty-six horses were adopted during two scheduled adoptions and on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the year, as animals became available.

The demand for Oregon wild horses remains high as was evidenced by the 700 active applications on hand at the end of the FY. The public continued to show a great deal of interest in seeing wild horses, both at the wild horse corrals, west of Burns, and in their native habitat.

Drought in two Herd Management Areas (HMAs) during the summer of 1994 created a need for emergency gatherings.

A total of 181 wild horses, in excess of management levels, were removed from the South Steens HMA on September 17, 1994. Animals were removed from the range to reduce resource damage. Monitoring data as of November 8, 1994, indicated there are 148 wild horses in the South Steens HMA. As a result of drought, 39 animals were gathered on September 2, 1994, leaving 32 wild horses remaining in the Sheephead HMA. Wild horses in the Alvord-Tule Springs HMA were monitored on August 12, 1994, and 136 animals were counted.

A total of 125 excess wild horses were removed from the Warm Springs HMA on January 3, 1994. Monitoring data from the Palomino Buttes HMA indicated that approximately 60 excess animals will need to be removed in FY95. Monitoring data taken in the Riddle Mountain and Kiger HMAs on November 1, 1994, showed 33 and 51 wild horses, respectively.

A total of 43 excess wild horses were gathered on the USFS's Bear Valley Ranger District. The horses were brought to the BLM Burns Wild Horse Corrals for processing and adoption.

## 1995 Plans

Revision of the Riddle and Kiger HMA plans and the development of the Kiger Mustang ACEC Management Plan continue to be scheduled. Plans are to remove 60 horses from the Palomino Buttes HMA.

The BLM plans to gather wild horses that are outside active HMAs. Approximately 15 animals will be removed from the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment and 6 animals will be removed from the Wildhorse Canyon area.



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# ANDREWS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

## *Affected Interests*

Following issuance of this Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) Update, there will be a 30-day comment period for the public to request affected interest status. If you believe that any of the future actions indicated in the RPS Update may affect your interests, contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Manager in writing by July 14, 1995. You must advise which specific future actions concern you, the allotment or allotment(s) involved, and your reason for believing that you have an interest that can be affected by future actions. The District Manager will provide those determined to have an affected interest with an opportunity to participate in the development of the livestock grazing management plans in the identified allotments.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6001	North Catlow	I	Three miles of pipeline and two 16-foot diameter troughs will be added to the existing Duhaime well and pipeline. The project will provide reliable water in the Rock Creek Pasture, improve livestock distribution and benefit antelope, deer, and nongame wildlife.
6002	South Steens	I	<p>Eight reservoirs were maintained in the Skull Creek and Skull Lake Pastures to provide water for livestock and wildlife. Livestock will now be able to better utilize upland areas, taking pressure off riparian areas.</p> <p>The Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) affirmed the Andrews Resource Area Manager's decision to gather wild horses from the South Steens Herd Management Area (HMA). In September 1994, 181 wild horses were gathered, with most animals coming from the Three Springs, Dry Creek, and Home Creek areas.</p> <p>The draft Allotment Management Plan (AMP) was circulated for public review during December and January and the period for public comments ended January 23, 1995. Comments have been reviewed and changes made to the document. The final AMP and a Decision Record will be issued in May 1995.</p>

\*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6003	Fish Creek-Big Indian	I	<p>The boundary fence, necessary to prevent livestock from moving into the adjacent Steens Summit nonuse area, should be completed before livestock are allowed on the allotment. The Upper Dry Creek Pasture fence is scheduled to be completed along with maintenance of six springs within the Cold Springs Pasture.</p> <p>An allotment management evaluation will be completed in 1995. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, fishery, wild and scenic river, and wilderness values. Wild horses within the Dry Creek Field were removed during September 1994.</p>
6006	Frazier Field	I	<p>Two acres of medusahead will be burned to control this noxious weed. Burning will be completed prior to seed release in an effort to control spread of this species to adjacent areas.</p> <p>An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1995. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, wild horses, Special Status fish species, and wilderness values.</p>
6007	Ruby Springs	I	<p>Juniper will be cut in 1995 on 189 acres in Field 5 and 191 acres in Field 6. In 1994, 1-mile of fence was built around a meadow in Field 6 for streambank stabilization and restoration of meadow habitat.</p> <p>An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1995 to assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include wildlife habitat, range condition, and riparian/aquatic condition.</p> <p>An AMP will be prepared in 1995 and a grazing system will be designed to meet the stated resource objectives.</p>



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6010	East Ridge	I	The 500-acre prescribed burn, completed in 1993 to control the spread of juniper and sagebrush and release native grasses, will be rested for the third year. In 1994, 350 acres of juniper were cut and will continue to be rested. An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be completed to analyze impacts of prescribed burning and juniper cutting in the Tackman Pasture.
6012	Alvord	I	An allotment management evaluation will be completed in 1995. The Stonehouse Pasture will be removed and designated a separate allotment. This area has riparian, wilderness, range condition, and wildlife concerns. An AMP/EA will be written and circulated for public review in 1995. The biological evaluation for the threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout found in Pike, Little Alvord, Alvord, and Mosquito Creeks in the North Foothills and South Foothills Pastures was completed during January 1995.
6015	Trout Creek Mountain	I	Two water troughs were placed on an existing pipeline to improve livestock distribution within a crested wheatgrass seeding. Three riparian exclosures were maintained to repair damage from the winter snowpack.
6018	Tule Springs	I	A cattleguard was placed on a heavily traveled road where the gate was frequently left open.
6020	Pueblo-Lone Mountain	I	An EA evaluating management options for the allotment will be available for public review this year. The actions analyzed in the EA are part of an effort to develop an AMP for the allotment.  Interested publics took part in developing management objectives and strategies to be used in preparing the AMP. A plan and EA will be ready for public review in June 1995.
6026	Mann Lake	I	The Strode Spring pipeline, which is scheduled to be completed in 1995, will provide water for livestock and wildlife away from Mann Lake. The allotment management evaluation has been rescheduled. The biological opinion for Lahontan cutthroat trout was updated for the 1995 and 1996 grazing seasons and submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This plan encompasses Mosquito and Little McCoy Creeks within the South Foothills Pasture of this allotment.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6030	Reicken's Corner	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1995. It indicated much more forage is available than is currently allocated due to seedings to rehabilitate a burned area. It also indicated implementation of the grazing schedule in the 1991 AMP is accomplishing the stated objectives.
6031	Lavoy Tables	M	A cattleguard and 1-mile of wire fence were constructed in the P-Hill Pasture in 1994, to improve safety for livestock and traffic along State Highway 205 leading south out of Frenchglen, and to create an additional pasture to improve distribution of livestock.
6033	Chimney	I	An EA will be completed in 1995 analyzing prescribed burning and cutting of juniper on approximately 1,200 acres of public land in the Chimney Pasture.
6035	Fields Basin	I	One and one-half miles of pipeline were installed and a 30-foot trough placed to increase the reliability of water and improve livestock distribution. Water at this location will help to implement grazing according to an existing livestock rotation schedule.



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# THREE RIVERS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

## *Introduction*

The purposed of this document is to outline the progress being made in implementing the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP) in the range program.

## *Affected Interests*

Following issuance of this Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) Update, there will be a 30-day comment period for the public to request affected interest status. If you believe that any of the future actions indicated in the RPS Update may affect your interests, contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Manager in writing by July 14, 1995. You must advise which specific future actions concern you, the allotment or allotment(s) involved, and your reason for believing that you have an interest that can be affected by future actions. The District Manager will provide those determined to have an affected interest with an opportunity to participate in the development of the livestock grazing management plans in the identified allotments.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
4097	Trout Creek	I	The troughs at three spring developments were replaced in 1994 to return these projects to a usable condition for livestock and wildlife.
5101	Devine Ridge	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include Special Status species, big game habitat, water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat, and range condition. The trough was replaced at a spring development in 1994 to bring the project into a functioning condition.
5105	Camp Harney	M	The fence reconstruction planned in 1994 will be completed in 1995.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5105	Camp Harney	M	The fence reconstruction planned in 1994 will be completed in 1995.
5201	Coleman Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994. Results showed the stocking rate is below the carrying capacity for the allotment. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the resource objectives to make them measurable and to reflect the resource concerns of water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, Special Status species, range condition, and big game winter range. It also recommended changes to the grazing system to meet these objectives. The AMP was revised in 1994 and it incorporated the resource objectives recommended in the evaluation. These objectives include maintaining the good condition rangeland, maintaining the availability and productivity of upland forbs for sage grouse, and improving the riparian condition on Coleman Creek. A grazing system using early, graze, and rest treatments will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been established for each pasture. One and one-quarter mile of fence is planned for 1995 to enhance riparian management.
5207	Coyote Creek	M	The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include big game habitat.
5209	Crane	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include big game winter range. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP as listed above.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5213	Beaver Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994. The results of the evaluation showed that forage production is well above the amount of forage allocated for livestock and wildlife. The range condition has improved, largely due to the amount of voluntary nonuse the permittee has taken. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the objectives for this allotment to make them measurable and reflect the resource concerns of big game habitat and Special Status species. The grazing system needs some adjustment to meet these objectives and a cross fence in one pasture was recommended. In 1994, the AMP was revised. This AMP incorporated the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and included revised objectives which reflect the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP and listed above. The resource objectives are to cause an upward trend in areas in less than good range condition, while maintaining the range condition in areas currently in good or better range condition; and to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April or May through mid-July in one or two of the three pastures every year. The grazing system has been modified to meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been established for each pasture. One mile of existing management fence was reconstructed in 1994.
5214	Hamilton	I	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition and big game winter range. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns are listed above.
5223	East Davies	I	One mile of electric fence has been planned for 1995 to implement the grazing system incorporated into the AMP completed in 1994.
5301	Princeton	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include Special Status species and big game winter range.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5303	Dry Lake	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include wetland habitat, playa habitat, Special Status species, and big game winter range.
5305	Crow's Nest	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994 showing that resource objectives are being met, but that they need to be revised to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns of Special Status species. The present grazing system is meeting the resource objectives and there is no need to change it at this time.
5306	Rocky Ford	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include Special Status species. The results showed stocking rate and carrying capacity to be well balanced. The grazing system was found to be adequate to meet the resource objectives and resolve the conflicts and concerns identified above. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the objectives to make them more measurable and to reflect resource concerns.
5307	Smyth Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994 and results showed forage production is sufficient to meet the forage allocations for livestock, wildlife, and wild horses. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns of water quality, condition of big game, riparian and aquatic habitats, playa habitat, an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), wild horses, Special Status species, and range condition. The evaluation found that the grazing system has not been effective in meeting the resource objectives and recommended changing it. A variety of range improvements was also recommended. The AMP will be revised in 1995 in conjunction with the preparation of the Kiger Mustang ACEC Management Plan. The AMP will incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation. The AMP will include a grazing system designed to resolve the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP and listed above.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5308	Kiger	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994 and results indicated forage production is sufficient for the allocations to livestock, wildlife, and wild horses. It also indicated that average wild horse use has been in excess of allocation. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the resource objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The grazing system has not been followed and the evaluation recommended modifying the system to better meet resource objectives. The AMP will be prepared in 1995, in conjunction with the preparation of a management plan for the Kiger Mustang ACEC. The AMP will incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and will establish the recommended objectives. The AMP will include a grazing system designed to resolve conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP which include wild horses, Special Status species, an ACEC, range condition, and big game habitat.</p>
5309	Happy Valley	M	<p>An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include water quality, Special Status species, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, an ACEC, wild horses, and big game habitat. Results indicated forage production is balanced with forage allocation. The existing grazing system has been meeting the objectives for upland vegetation, but needs some modification to meet riparian objectives. The objectives need to be rewritten to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns listed above. The AMP will be revised in 1995, in conjunction with preparation of the Kiger Mustang ACEC Management Plan. The AMP will incorporate the recommendations in the allotment management evaluation and contain a grazing system designed to meet the objectives developed to resolve the conflicts and concerns listed previously.</p>



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5313	Burnt Flat	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results indicated horse numbers have been significantly over appropriate management levels. The amount of forage produced in the allotment is balanced with forage allocations, but the excess numbers of horses have had to be offset by voluntary nonuse by the permittee. The evaluation indicated the grazing system needs minor modifications and the objectives rewritten to make them more measurable and reflect resource concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include wild horses, playa habitat, an ACEC, Special Status species, a WSA, and range condition. The AMP will be revised in 1995 in conjunction with preparation of the Kiger Mustang ACEC Management Plan and will incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts and concerns identified above.
5316	Virginia Valley	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include big game habitat. One mile of existing management fence was reconstructed in 1994.
5321	Hamilton Individual	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results indicated the stocking rate is in balance with forage production. The grazing system needs to be adjusted to meet riparian and water quality objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate the recommendations from the evaluation. The objectives will be rewritten so they are more measurable and reflect the resource concerns of water quality, Special Status species, and range condition. The AMP will include a grazing system designed to resolve these resource concerns.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5330	Deep Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results indicated the grazing system needs to be modified because the existing system has not allowed riparian condition to improve. There has been insufficient data to calculate the carrying capacity. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns of water quality, Special Status species, and range condition. Additional monitoring was also recommended. The AMP will be revised in 1995, incorporating recommendations in the allotment management evaluation. It will include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts and concerns listed above.
5502	Rock Creek	M	The Big Rock Creek Fire rehabilitation fence is no longer needed for resource protection and will be removed in 1995.
5503	Pine Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994 and results indicated the grazing system is working toward meeting objectives for upland and riparian condition, but the forage production objectives are not being met. Although the forage allocation is over the calculated carrying capacity, the permittee has taken voluntary nonuse which has balanced stocking rate and carrying capacity. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, erosion, big game habitat, riparian and aquatic habitat, Special Status species, an ACEC, and range condition. Minor changes to the grazing system were recommended.
5506	Muddy Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results indicated that although stocking rate and carrying capacity are balanced, the existing stocking rate is not meeting riparian objectives. The evaluation recommended rewriting the objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality and Special Status species. The grazing system needs to be modified in order to meet the objectives.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5507	Wolf Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994. There was insufficient data to calculate carrying capacity, but it is estimated that stocking rate is balanced with forage production. The grazing system needs to be modified and the objectives rewritten to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns of Special Status species.
5509	Williams' Dripp	M	The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate the recommendation from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three River RMP. Concerns include Special Status species and range condition. One spring development is planned in 1995 to improve riparian condition at the spring and provide clean, reliable water for livestock and wildlife.
5511	Moffet Table	I	An allotment management evaluation was completed in 1994 and results showed that stocking rate has been balanced with carrying capacity due to voluntary nonuse taken by the permittees. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns and conflicts identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include water quality, Wild and Scenic Rivers, big game habitat condition, Special Status species, WSA, and range condition. The evaluation indicated that the grazing system needs to be modified in order to meet the resource objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate the recommendations in the allotment management evaluation. The AMP will include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts and concerns identified above. The troughs at two spring developments were replaced in 1994 to return those projects to usable condition.
5513	Shelley	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include Special Status species.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5514	Coal Mine Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1994 and results indicated the stocking rate and carrying capacity are very closely balanced. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite the objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include erosion, Special Status species, and range condition. Grazing system changes were recommended. One mile of existing management fence was reconstructed in 1994.
5516	Birch Creek	M	The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These include big game habitat and range condition.
5522	Cottonwood Creek	M	The AMP was revised in 1994, incorporating recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and combining this allotment and the Chalk Hills Allotment into one plan to provide improved management for both allotments. The objectives were rewritten to reflect the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat, and Special Status species. The management objectives are to improve riparian condition on Cottonwood Creek; to maintain a stable upland trend; and to maintain browse on at least 85 percent of the big game winter range currently supporting browse. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
5525	Mill Gulch	M	An AMP was prepared in 1994 and results indicated that while the stocking rate and carrying capacity are balanced, grazing treatments have been applied inconsistently and cannot be evaluated. The evaluation recommended rewriting the objectives to make them more measurable and reflect the resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include water quality, erosion, and mining activities. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts and concerns identified above.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5526	Chalk Hills	M	The AMP was revised in 1994, incorporating recommendations from the allotment management evaluation, and combining this allotment and the Cottonwood Creek Allotment into one plan to provide improved management for both allotments. The objectives were rewritten to reflect the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These conflicts and concerns include water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat, and Special Status species. The management objectives are to improve riparian condition on Cottonwood Creek (this objective applies only to the Cottonwood Creek Allotment); to maintain a stable upland trend; and to maintain browse on at least 85 percent of the big game winter range currently supporting browse. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
5529	House Butte	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include an ACEC and Special Status species.
5530	River	I	The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These include water quality, erosion, Special Status species, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, and big game habitat. One-half mile of existing management fence was reconstructed in 1994.
5531	Stinkingwater	I	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include water quality, Special Status species, big game habitat condition, an ACEC, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, and wild horses.
5532	Mountain	I	The riparian management fence begun in 1994 will be completed in 1995. Troughs were replaced at two spring developments to return them to a usable condition. One spring development is planned in 1995.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5534	Mahon Creek	I	The AMP was revised in 1994, incorporating recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addressing conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality. The objectives are to cause an upward trend in areas in less than good range condition while maintaining range condition in areas currently in good or better range condition, and cause an upward trend in riparian and wet meadow condition in the current Crow Camp Pasture. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. One and one-quarter mile of fence has been planned for 1995 to allow better management of the riparian area.
5535	Miller Canyon	I	The AMP was revised in 1994, incorporating recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and addressing conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include Special Status species and range condition. The objectives are to cause an upward trend in range condition on all areas in less than good range condition, while maintaining range condition on all areas currently in good range condition, and increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July. The grazing system will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
5536	Alder Creek	I	The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, big game habitat, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, Special Status species, and range condition.
5537	Buck Mountain	M	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1995 to analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, Special Status species, and big game winter range.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5538	Riverside	M	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results showed that stocking rate and carrying capacity are balanced. The objectives need to be rewritten to make them more measurable and reflect the conflicts and concerns. These concerns include Special Status species, range condition, and recreation. The grazing system needs to be modified in order to meet objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and contain a grazing system designed to resolve the conflicts and concerns.
5564	Wheeler Basin	M	The AMP was revised in 1994, incorporating recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and including objectives designed to resolve the conflicts and concerns (big game habitat) identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The objectives are to maintain a stable trend on key species of bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, and Thurber's needlegrass on juniper/Wyoming big sagebrush/Thurber's needlegrass and Wyoming big sagebrush/Sandberg's bluegrass sites, as shown by trend studies; and to maintain a stable browse component on at least 85 percent of the current stands of browse in healthy condition in both pastures. This would be done by ensuring a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
5566	Texaco Basin	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results indicated that carrying capacity is well in excess of stocking rate. The objectives need to be rewritten to make them more measurable and reflect the concerns and conflicts identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include water quality, riparian and wetland habitat, recreation, wild horses, and Special Status species. The grazing system needs some minor modification in order to meet objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation. The trough was replaced at a spring development in 1994 to return the project to usable condition.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5575	Schoolhouse	M	In August 1994, a wildfire burned approximately 680 acres of public land and 5 miles of fence. Rehabilitation actions planned in 1995 include reconstruction of 5 miles of fence, seeding 120 acres of steep terrain with sheep fescue and mountain brome, and falling dead aspen trees on 5 acres to protect aspen sprouts from browsing by wildlife. Livestock grazing will not be allowed on the burned area for at least 2 years while native vegetation recovers.
7001	East Warm Springs	I	In 1994, 8 miles of fence were constructed around the Foster Flat RNA/ACEC and six cattleguards were installed throughout the allotment to improve visitor access.
7003	East Wagontire	I	An AMP was prepared in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation completed in 1990, and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns are big game and playa habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. Objectives are to cause an upward (improve) trend in the mid-seral stage big sagebrush/Idaho fescue/Thurber's needlegrass range sites in the Sourdough, Egli Ridge, Hay Lake, and Big Seeding Pastures over the next 5 years, while maintaining late-seral stage areas; to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May to mid-July during the next 5 years; and to maintain at least 85 percent of the current stands of browse in healthy condition. This will be done by ensuring a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7004	West Wagontire	I	An AMP prepared in 1995 incorporates recommendations from the allotment management evaluation completed in 1990, and addresses conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Objectives on big sagebrush/Idaho fescue/Thurber's needlegrass range sites in the Rams Butte, Chandler Butte, and Tired Horse Butte Pastures are to cause an upward (improve) trend areas in the mid-seral stage and to maintain areas in late-seral stage, over the next 5 years; to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May to mid-July during the next 5 years; and to maintain at least 85 percent of the current stands of browse in healthy condition. This will be done by ensuring a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. One and one-half miles of pipeline and 6.5 miles of fence are planned in 1995. These improvements will improve livestock distribution and help to implement the grazing system.
7009	Dry Lake	I	An AMP will be developed in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Concerns include big game habitat condition, riparian, aquatic, wetland, and playa habitat condition, Special Status species, water quality, erosion, and range condition.
7012	Packsaddle	I	An AMP will be developed in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflict and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Concerns and conflicts include riparian and aquatic habitat condition, erosion, Special Status species, and range condition.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7022	Weaver Lake	I	An AMP was developed in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation prepared in 1990 and to address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Objectives are to maintain the present good condition of the big sagebrush/Idaho fescue sites in the uplands of the North Pasture and the big sagebrush/bluegrass sites in the South Pasture as shown by a stable trend; to provide good quality wetland habitat for early spring use by waterfowl on Weaver Lake and East Chain Lake playas; to provide 288 AUMs of forage to maintain healthy populations of wild horses at appropriate management levels, which will achieve a thriving natural ecological balance; to provide early spring forbs for sage grouse; and to ensure that livestock grazing practices do not conflict with ferruginous hawk nesting. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
7023	West Sagehen	I	An AMP was developed in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation completed in 1989, and to address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include big game habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. Objectives are to cause an upward trend in the low seral and mid-seral stage sagebrush/Idaho fescue and sagebrush/Thurber's needlegrass range sites in the Southwest and Southeast Pastures over the next 5 years; to maintain a static or upward trend in the rehabilitated range sites in the Northwest and Northeast Pastures; to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July over the next 5 years; to increase the current stand of browse in healthy condition in the south pastures; and to maintain populations and habitat of Cusick's buckwheat ( <i>Eriogonum cusickii</i> ). This will be done by ensuring a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7024	East Sagehen	I	An AMP has been developed in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation completed in 1989, and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include erosion, big game habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. The objectives are to cause an upward trend in the low seral and mid-seral stage sagebrush/Idaho fescue and sagebrush/Thurber's needlegrass range sites in the West and East Pastures over the next 5 years; to maintain a static or upward trend in the rehabilitated range sites in the North Pasture; to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July every year over the next 5 years; and to increase the current stands of browse in healthy condition in all of the pastures. This will be done by ensuring a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.
7025	Gouldin	I	An AMP was prepared in 1994 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation completed in 1989 and address the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include erosion, recreation, big game habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. Objectives are to cause an upward (improve) trend in the mid-seral Wyoming big sagebrush/Thurber's needlegrass/Idaho fescue range sites over the next 5 years, while maintaining late-seral stage areas; to improve the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May to mid-July over the next 5 years; and to maintain the current stands of bitterbrush in healthy condition. This will be done by maintaining a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent plants over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7030	Skull Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1995 and results indicated stocking rate is balanced with carrying capacity. The permittees have taken significant amounts of voluntary nonuse over the last 7 years. Riparian objectives have been met, but the objective for bitterbrush stands has not been met. The evaluation showed a need to modify the objectives to more adequately reflect current information and resource management concerns. These concerns include water quality, erosion, riparian habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. Grazing system changes were recommended to meet these objectives. The trough was replaced at a spring development to return the project to usable condition and .5-mile of existing management fence was reconstructed in 1994.
7062	Capehart Lake	I	An AMP was prepared in 1995 to incorporate recommendations made in the East Wagontire allotment management evaluation completed in 1990. This allotment was part of the East Wagontire Allotment until 1994. This AMP addresses the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The objectives are to cause an upward (improve) trend in the mid-seral stage big sagebrush/Idaho fescue/Thurber's needlegrass range sites in the Capehart Lake and Little Seeding Pastures over the next 5 years, while maintaining late-seral stage areas; and to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from May to mid-July during the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.



Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7063	Round Top Butte	I	<p>An AMP was prepared in 1995 to incorporate recommendations from the Glass Butte and West Wagonfire allotment management evaluations which were completed in 1990. This allotment was formed in 1994 by combining the Glass Butte Allotment and part of the West Wagonfire Allotment. The AMP addresses conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. These concerns include big game and playa habitat, Special Status species, range condition, and mining activities. The objectives are to cause an upward (improve) trend in the mid-seral stage big sagebrush/Idaho fescue/Thurber's needlegrass range sites in all of the pastures over the next 5 to 10 years while maintaining late-seral stage areas; to increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage grouse from April through mid-July during the next 5 years; and to cause an upward trend in the condition of bitterbrush stands in the Sheep Mountain and Round Top Butte Pastures. This will be done by maintaining a 1:1 ratio of seedling and young to dead and decadent bitterbrush plants while maintaining stands of bitterbrush in the current condition in the other pastures over the next 5 years. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p>



# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTER

The following are Environmental Assessments (EAs) which were scheduled but were not completed and new EAs recently initiated. The EAs for these projects are now completed or expected to be completed in FY 1995 and 1996. A notice is published in the Burns Times-Herald when each new EA is available for review by the public and the date when the comment period ends.

*If you would like to be involved in the planning process for any particular project or would simply like to receive a copy of an EA for review, note the EA register number and contact the District Environmental Coordinator Gordon Bentley, or the project's primary contact listed below. This should be done as early as possible to allow for full consideration of your input. Map 1, Andrews Resource Area, and Map 2, Three Rivers Resource Area, depict the location of each of these projects.*

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/Action
EA OR-026*-93-015	South Steens Allotment Management Plan (AMP)	The proposed action is to develop an AMP for the South Steens Allotment.  The purpose of this action is to develop a specific grazing strategy to meet specific objectives for natural resources occurring in the area. Rotation of grazing would provide periods of deferment, areas to be rested during the entire growing season, winter use, variable timing of grazing, and controlled levels of use.	South Steens Allotment.	Riparian/wetlands; water quality; South Steens Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA); Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River; Special Status plants; Rincon (2-82); Alvord Peak (2-83); Basque Hills (2-84); South Fork Donner und Blitzen River (2-85G); Home Creek (2-85H); High Steens (2-85F); and Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).	The draft AMP/EA has been reviewed by the public; all comments have been received; the final document is being prepared.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					

\* 025 = Three Rivers Resource Area 026 = Andrews Resource Area



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
* 025 = Three Rivers Resource Area 026 = Andrews Resource Area					
EA OR-025-93-016	Smyth Creek Juniper Control	The proposed action is to cut all juniper trees less than 24 inches in diameter, measured 1-foot above ground, in six units whose combined area is approximately 300 acres.	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 15, 16 and 22.	Redband trout.	EA is planned to be completed the winter of 1996.
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor		The purpose of the action is to reduce juniper competition with grasses, forbs, and shrubs, especially riparian species. Trees will be cut and left in place to improve riparian habitat and increase streamflow for redband trout and to prevent livestock entry into riparian areas.			
EA OR-025-93-017	Buzzard Creek Riparian Fence	The proposed action is to construct approximately 2 miles of fence on the east side of Buzzard Creek, connecting with the Harney Lake fire fence to enclose the area. This fence would be constructed of 5.5-foot steel posts and three strands of wire, of which the top two would be barbed and the bottom wire would be smooth.	T. 28 S., R. 29 E., Secs. 20, 21, 27 and 28; On Meadow Creek Quadrangle.	Wild horses (Warm Springs HMA); wetland/riparian.	EA completed; decision to implement proposed action issued 12-06-94; Implementation will occur summer 1995.
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor		The purpose of this proposed action is to facilitate rest of 2 miles of Buzzard Creek to improve meadow and riparian vegetation. This proposed action was identified in the Three Rivers RMP dated September 1992. Riparian habitat is in undesirable condition and water quality does not meet State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) water standards.			
EA OR-026-93-018	Upper Dry Creek Pasture Fence	The proposed action is to extend the pasture fence between Cold Springs Pasture and Upper Dry Creek .75-mile to the edge of Squaw Creek. This would be a 4-strand barbed wire fence with the bottom strand smooth.	T. 33 S., R. 32 1/4 E., Secs. 17 and 20.	None.	The proposed action under this EA has been determined to fall under the provisions of a categorical exclusion and so the EA has been dropped.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of this action is to complete the pasture division fence between Cold Springs Pasture and Upper Dry Creek Pasture to allow implementation of a rotational grazing system.	This area is approximately 2.5 miles north of the mouth of Blitzen Gorge and approximately 3 miles northeast of the Riddle Brothers Ranch.		



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-026-93-020	Cold Spring Protection Fence Trough	<p>The proposed action is to construct a rail fence around the springhead approximately 50-foot square, and pipe water into a trough and an overflow pond. These facilities would replace deteriorated existing structures.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to protect the riparian vegetation at the spring source and to provide a water source away from the spring. It would also allow riparian conditions to improve.</p>	<p>T. 33 S., R. 32<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> E., Sec. 22, SE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>NE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>.</p> <p>This area is located above the north rim of Little Blitzen Gorge.</p>	Wetlands/riparian zones; Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSA.	The EA status was dropped and Categorical Exclusion Records (CERs) completed because this action is maintenance and not construction.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-93-021	Fish Creek/ Big Indian Spring Protection Fences	<p>The proposed action is to accomplish maintenance of five spring-fed waterholes and fence around the springs and waterholes to exclude cattle during the summer of 1994. Each proposed fence would be approximately 50-foot square, rail or 4-strand barbed wire fence. A small collection box may be installed within each enclosure and water piped out to waterholes.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to prevent direct access into water sources by livestock, to protect the riparian habitat, and to ensure continued flow of water from each spring.</p>	<p>T. 33 S., R. 32<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> E., Sec. 27, NW<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>NE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>; T. 33 S., R. 32<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> E., Sec. 22, NE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>SW<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>; T. 33 S., R. 32<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> E., Sec. 21, SW<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>NE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>; T. 33 S., R. 32<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> E., Sec. 9, SE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>SE<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>; T. 33 S., R. 32<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> E., Sec. 9, SW<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>SW<math>\frac{1}{4}</math>.</p> <p>This area is located in the central portion of Steens Mountain above the north rim of Little Blitzen Gorge.</p>	Wetlands/riparian zones; Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) and Blitzen River (2-86E) WSAs; Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River.	The EA status was dropped and a CER completed because this action is maintenance and not construction.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-93-022	Mann Lake Pipeline	<p>The proposed action is to connect 2 miles of pipeline to a previously developed spring (Strode Spring) and place two troughs along the route. A protection fence would be constructed around the spring.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to provide a water source for livestock away from Mann Lake. This action would also improve the distribution of livestock in the Mann Lake seeding.</p>	<p>T. 31 and 32 S., R. 35 E., Secs. 31, 6 and 7.</p> <p>This area is approximately 1.5 miles north of Mann Lake on the northwest edge of South Mann Lake seeding.</p>	Stonehouse (2-23L) WSA.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review by the public was published 02-23-94; Decision Record signed 04-07-94 and decision is to implement the proposed action.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-025-93-025	Ross Springs Wetland Fence	The proposed action is to construct approximately 1-mile of 4-strand barbed wire fence along the west and south sides of Ross Springs. The proposed action will also provide water for livestock outside of the enclosure by maintenance of an existing waterhole.  The purpose of this action is to improve riparian values and water quality by removing livestock access of the Ross Spring/Alkali Flat wetland area. This action was identified in the Three Rivers RMP, dated September 1992.	T. 26 S., R. 28 E., Sec. 34, SE¼NE¼.	Wetland/riparian.	EA completed; decision to implement proposed action issued on 12-06-94; implementation will occur summer 1995.
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor					
EA OR-025-93-028	Silvies River Fishing Access Trail	The proposed action is to build approximately .5-mile of low-standard hiking trail from the west rim of the Silvies River down to the canyon bottom.  The purpose of the trail would be to provide physical access to a 3-mile stretch of public river with limited legal access. The trail would enhance fishing opportunities for the public, especially in local communities. Signs giving directions and information are also planned.	T. 21 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 25.	None.	EA was written; the next step is to publish notice of its availability for review by the public summer 1995.
Primary Contact: Dave Vickstrom					
EA OR-026-93-029	Shipley Spring Exclosure	The proposed action is to enlarge the present exclosure of .25-acre to 3 acres and construct two rock passes for bighorn sheep and mule deer access.  The purpose of this action is to provide a safe water source for big game. Wild animals can be more easily preyed upon within a small exclosure. Habitat within the larger exclosure would also be improved for chukar and nongame species.	T. 37 S., R. 32½ E., Secs. 17 and 20. Shipley Spring.	California bighorn sheep, Category 2 species; Rincon (2-82) WSA.	This action is consistent with requirements for categorical exclusion so an EA will not be prepared.
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter					
EA OR-026-93-030	Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP	The proposed action is to develop an AMP for the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment.  The purpose of this action is to develop an allotment management strategy which would meet allotment-specific objectives for vegetative resources within the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment. This would include a deferred grazing system which would allow for periodic rest from grazing and result in improved conditions of vegetation.	Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment.	Special Status species; water quality; wetlands/ riparian zones; Pueblo Mountain (2-81), Rincon (2-82), and Hawk Mountain (1-146A) WSAs; cultural resources.	EA has been completed and reviewed by affected interests and District staff specialists; the next step is to finalize the AMP and send the document to those who commented or requested copies.
Primary Contact: Willie Street					



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-026-93-035	WSA Reclamation Projects (vehicle routes closed and restoration actions taken)	The proposed action is to close three short, dead-end vehicles routes in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA, totaling 3 miles, by placing physical barricades, ripping compacted soils, and installing temporary waterbars along steep portions of the route.  The purpose of this action is to improve wilderness values such as naturalness, to stop accelerated erosion along steep terrain occurring on the vehicle routes, to help deter illegal off-highway vehicle use, and to help eliminate surface-disturbing damage within an RNA. The ripping action would only take place on flat terrain and along the vehicle route(s). The waterbars would be temporary (made of wood).	T. 39 S., R. 35 E., Secs. 28, 29 and 32;  T. 40 S., R. 35 E., Sec 33.	Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA; Pueblo Foothills RNA.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review by the public was published 04-27-94; Decision Record signed and decision is to implement the proposed action.
EA- OR-026-93-036	WSA Reclamation Projects (old mining operations reclaimed)	The proposed action is to reclaim two old mining operations (exploration pits and shafts) in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSAs.  The purpose of this project is to improve wilderness values, such as naturalness, and to restore disturbed areas that no longer serve the original purpose and will not heal naturally, and to eliminate public safety hazards. Using heavy equipment, waste piles would be put back into pits and shafts and the areas contoured to blend with the surrounding topography.	T. 39 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 31; T. 37 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 7.	Pueblo Mountains (2-81) and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSAs.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review by the public was published 07-13-94; Decision Record signed 09-13-94; decision was modified to reflect public comments; the modified proposed action will now be implemented.
EA OR-026-94-004	Roaring Butte Drilling	The proposed action is to obtain drill core samples from four 40-foot deep holes.  The purpose of the proposed action is to determine if the site contains rock suitable for roadbase material.	T. 34 S., R. 32 E., Sec. 11, NW¼NE¼.	None.	EA was prepared; the Decision Record was signed and the action completed.
EA OR-026-94-005	Butler Extension Drilling	The proposed action is to obtain drill core samples from four 40-foot deep holes.  The purpose of the proposed action is to determine if the site contains rock suitable for roadbase material.	T. 33 S., R. 31 E., Sec. 12, SE¼SE¼.	None.	EA was prepared; the Decision Record was signed and the action completed.



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-025-94-009	Miller Canyon and Mountain Allotments Juniper Control	<p>The proposed action is to cut all juniper trees less than 24-inches in diameter, measured 1-foot above ground, in 30 units with a combined area of approximately 1,900 acres.</p> <p>The purpose of the action is to reduce juniper competition with grasses, forbs, shrubs, and in some areas aspen trees. Trees will be cut and left in place to provide beneficial micro-site characteristics for seedling establishment.</p>	Scattered sites in the Miller Canyon (No. 5535) and Mountain (No. 5532) Allotments in the Stinkingwater Mountains.	None.	EA is planned to be completed the summer of 1995.
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor					
EA OR-025-94-014	Riddle Creek Prescribed Burn	<p>The proposed action is to burn three parcels totaling approximately 200 acres along the upper reaches of Riddle Creek in the Riddle/Coyote, Hamilton Individual, and Riddle Mountain Allotments.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to maintain a healthy balance between grass, shrub, and tree components of the plant community by reducing competition from junipers. The grass and shrub component is essential in maintaining soil stability and moisture infiltration.</p>	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 13 and 24; T. 30 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 30.	None.	EA is planned to be completed the winter of 1995.
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen					
EA OR-025-94-015	WSR Fence	<p>The proposed action is to analyze the location of 1.5 miles of fence along the south shore of Warm Springs Reservoir in the Riverside Allotment.</p> <p>The purpose is to determine if an existing fence is in conflict with multiple uses and resource values.</p>	T. 23 S., R. 36 E., Secs. 12 and 13.	None.	EA is planned to be completed the winter of 1995.
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen					
EA OR-026-94-037	North Foothills Fence	<p>The proposed action is to extend an existing fence 1.5 miles within the North Foothills Pasture of the Mann Lake Allotment. The livestock permittee would provide the materials and construct the fence to BLM standards.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to prevent cattle from trailing to upper elevations before key plant species have made adequate growth and to improve distribution of livestock within the pasture.</p>	T. 32 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 2, 11, and 12.	None.	EA was written and sent to the public for review on 10-05-94; Decision Record signed on 03-08-95.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-026-94-038	Chimney Prescribed Burn	<p>The proposed action is to burn approximately 1,200 acres within the Chimney Pasture of the Chimney Allotment. To allow forage plants to recover, the area would not be grazed for two growing seasons following the burn.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to remove encroaching juniper trees, to increase diversity of species in the plant community, to increase forage production for livestock and wildlife, to reduce runoff and erosion, and to improve infiltration of water into the soil.</p>	T. 30 S., R. 33 E., Secs. 27, 34, and 35; T. 31 S., R. 33 E., Secs. 4, 9, 10, and 15.	None.	The Chimney (94-038) and Tackman (94-039) EAs for prescribed burns will be combined under one EA to be completed the spring of 1995.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-94-040	Mud Creek Prescribed Burn	<p>The proposed action is to burn 600 acres within the South Steens Pasture of the South Steens Allotment. To allow forage plants to recover, the area would not be grazed for two growing seasons following the burn.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to remove encroaching juniper trees, to increase diversity of species in the plant community, to increase forage production for livestock and wildlife, to reduce runoff and erosion, and to improve infiltration of water into the soil.</p>	T. 34 S., R. 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ E., Secs. 10, 11, 12, 14, and 15.	South Fork Donner und Blitzen River (2-85G) and High Steens (2-85F) WSAs.	EA has been incorporated into the South Steens AMP/EA.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-94-041	North Seeding Pipeline	<p>The proposed action is to pipe water from an existing well on private land to a trough .25-mile away on a crested wheatgrass seeding in the Chimney Allotment. The livestock permittee would provide the materials and install facilities to BLM standards.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to improve distribution of livestock, to increase utilization in upland areas, and to relieve grazing pressure along Cucamonga Creek.</p>	T. 30 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 8, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .	None.	This project has been put on hold for the time being.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-026-94-042  Primary Contact: Dave Ward	Duhaime Pipeline Extension Burial	<p>The proposed action is to bury 3.5 miles of plastic pipe that was laid on top of the ground in 1990, as an emergency drought relief project. Two 16-foot bottomless troughs would also be added.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to provide water for livestock and wildlife and improve grazing management in the North Catlow Allotment by improving distribution of livestock.</p>	T. 31 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 33; T. 32 S., R. 29 E., Secs. 3, 4, 15, 22, and 27.	None.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review was published 10-05-94; the Decision Record allowing the proposed action to be implemented was signed 11-07-94.
EA OR-026-94-043  Primary Contact: Dave Ward	Dry Krumbo Reservoir	<p>The proposed action is to build a stockwater reservoir approximately 3-acre feet in capacity.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to improve distribution of livestock in the Krumbo Ridge Pasture.</p>	T. 31 S., R. 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ E., Sec. 16.	None.	This project has been put on hold for the time being.
EA OR-026-94-044  Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter	Little Blitzen Streambank Stabilization	<p>The proposed action is to stabilize 200 yards of streambank by anchoring cut junipers along banks of the Little Blitzen River just above the Riddle Brothers Ranch houses.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to stabilize eroding banks, protect meadows, and improve water quality.</p>	T. 33 S., R. 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ E., Sec. 31.	Redband trout a Category 2 species; Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River.	EA is planned to be completed the fall of 1995.
EA OR-026-94-045  Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter	Andrews Ruffed Grouse Release	<p>The proposed action is for ODFW to release ruffed grouse in Fish, McCoy, and Kiger Creek drainages on Steens Mountain.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to establish a ruffed grouse population along the above mentioned creeks.</p>	Fish, McCoy, and Kiger Creeks on Steens Mountain.	Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River; Blitzen River (2-86E) WSA.	EA is planned to be completed the fall of 1995.
EA OR-026-94-046  Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter	Steens Mountain Bighorn Sheep Releases	<p>The proposed action is for ODFW to release California bighorn sheep in the Frenchglen Rim area, the lower Blitzen River Canyon, near Big Indian, the Stonehouse Canyon area of Steens Mountain, and the Red Mountain and Cottonwood Creek areas near the Nevada state line.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to reestablish bighorn sheep in historic ranges which still provide viable habitat. This action is in conformance with the ODFW's Oregon Bighorn Sheep Management Plan.</p>	Steens Mountain and Red Mountain areas.	Blitzen River (2-86E); High Steens (2-85F); and Red Mountain (2-78) WSAs; bighorn sheep.	EA is planned to be completed in FY96.



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-026-94-047	Catlow Rim Bighorn Burns	The proposed action is to burn up to a total of 200 acres along 12 miles of Catlow Rim along the west edge of Steens Mountain.	Catlow Rim from Dry Creek to Echart Grade on Steens Mountain.	Home Creek (2-85H) WSA; bighorn sheep.	EA has been incorporated into the South Steens AMP/EA.
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to reduce the density of western juniper and Wyoming big sagebrush to allow grasses used by bighorn sheep to increase.			
EA OR-026-94-048	West Steens Deer Winter Range Browse Seedings	The proposed action is to seed 200 acres of cheatgrass/mustard/Sandberg's bluegrass plant communities with browse species.	T. 31 S., R. 32½ E., near Frenchglen.	None.	This proposed action is covered by an existing EA; the action will be carried out in FY95.
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to increase the density of forage on deer winter range and to increase the diversity and structure of plant communities.			
EA OR-026-94-049	Pueblo Slough Wetlands Dike Construction	The proposed action is to construct a 4-foot high dike, 250 yards long, in order to impound water from artesian wells.	T. 41 S., R. 35 E., Secs. 2 and 11.	Cultural resources.	EA is planned to be completed in FY96.
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to create a wetland to provide foraging and brood habitat for aquatic birds.			
EA OR-025-94-052	Smyth Creek Road Realignment	The proposed action is to construct approximately .38-mile of road and install one cattleguard in the Yank Springs Pasture of the Kiger Allotment.	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 30 and 31.	Public Access; Kiger HMA; Kiger Mustang ACEC.	EA is planned to be completed in 1995.
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of the proposed action is to improve public access to public land.			
EA OR-026-94-055	Ruppel Right- of-Way	The proposed action is to grant a right-of-way to private property across public land.	T. 35 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 29 and 30.	Alvord Desert (2-74) WSA.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review by the public was published 07-27-94; the Decision Record signed on 09-28-94 and decision is to implement the proposed action.
Primary Contact: Barbara Kehrberg		The purpose of this action is to provide legal access to private land across public land.			



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-025-94-059	Alvord AMP	The proposed action is to implement a 3-pasture rest/rotation grazing system on the Stonehouse Pasture. This will require 4.5 miles of 3-strand barbed wire fence (bottom strand smooth) and approximately 1,000 acres of prescribed burning. Also, 1.5 miles of nonfunctional fence will be removed within the Lower Stonehouse WSA.	T. 30 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 32 (fence).  T. 31 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 36 (.66-mile fence).  T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 1, 7, 11, 12, 13, and 18 (burn), approximately 400 acres are within the Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSA.	Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSA; Riddle Creek and headwaters of Deep Creek.	EA is in progress and will be circulated to the public for comment in the summer of 1995.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of this action is to improve range condition and plant diversity on sagebrush and juniper dominated sites.			
EA OR-026-94-070	Pike Creek Fire Rehabilitation	The proposed action is to seed 240 acres burned by wildfire between July 2 and 3, 1994. Also to build 4.5 miles of temporary 3-strand barbed wire fence to rest the seeded area from grazing.	East side of Steens Mountain near Pike Creek.	High Steens (2-85F) WSA and Lahontan cutthroat trout habitat.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review by the public was published 08-31-94; Decision Record signed on 08-18-94 and decision is to implement the proposed action.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of this action is to restore the burned area to native perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs before the introduced annual cheatgrass can take over the area and to protect the soil from erosion.			
EA OR-026-94-071	Red Point Fire Rehabilitation	The proposed action is to seed 300 acres burned by wildfire between July 22 and 25, 1994. Also to build two short sections (200 and 300 yards) of temporary electric fence, and .4 mile of temporary 3-strand barbed wire fence. A burned wooden bridge would be replaced with a steel culvert. Waterbars would be constructed on bladed fire breaks to halt erosion.	East side of the Pueblo Mountains and adjacent to the Colony Ranch.	Pueblo Mountain (2-81) WSA.	EA was written; notice of its availability for review by the public was published 09-21-94; Decision Record signed on 09-12-94 and decision is to implement the proposed action.
Primary Contact: Scott Moore		The purpose of this action is to restore the burned area to native perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs before the introduced annual cheatgrass can take over the area and to protect the soil from erosion.			
EA OR-025-94-073	Jordan Springs Fire Rehabilitation	The proposed action is to reconstruct 4 miles of boundary fence burned by wildfire between August 27 and September 5, 1994.	Upper Mountain Pasture of the School House Allotment, adjacent to the National Forest boundary.	None.	EA completed; decision to implement proposed action issued on 10-25-94; implementation will occur summer 1995.
Primary Contact: Theresa Romasko		The purpose of this action is to rebuild the fence which was located on the boundary line between the National Forest and public land administered by the BLM.			



EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-025-95-001	Jordan Springs Fire Recovery	The proposed action is to reforest 250 acres of ponderosa pine and harvest 255,000 board feet of fire-killed timber.	T. 20 S., R. 33½ E., Sec. 7.	None.	Interagency (FS) analysis and scoping completed; public comment period closed 01-30-95; decision anticipated April 1995.
Primary Contact: Jon Reponen		The purpose of this action is to salvage fire-killed trees, to lower fuel loading and fire hazard, and to improve wildlife habitat.			
EA OR-025-95-002	Coleman Creek Riparian Fence	The proposed action is to construct 1.75 miles of fence to create an additional pasture.	Coleman Creek Allotment.	None.	EA will be completed in the fall of 1995.
Primary Contact: Lesley Richman		The purpose of this action is to protect riparian values, to properly utilize a seeding, and to properly graze a riparian area.			
EA OR-026-95-005	Mickey Hot Springs Protection Project	The proposed action is to construct 1-mile of fence to enclose Mickey Hot Springs and a vehicle barricade.	T. 33 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 33.	East Alvord (2-73A) WSA; Alvord-Tule Springs HMA, and a proposed ACEC.	EA will be completed in the spring of 1995.
Primary Contact: Scott Moore		The purpose of this action is to protect a unique hot springs complex from off-highway vehicles and livestock grazing, and to improve public safety.			
EA OR-026-95-019	Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District	The proposed action is to prepare an updated Cultural Resource Management Plan.	T. 33 S., R. 32¼ E., Sec. 30.	Donner und Blitzen Wild and Scenic River and riparian values.	Decision Record was signed on 03-08-95.
Primary Contact: Fred McDonald		The purpose of this action is to protect a unique cultural complex through management of attendant uses and involvement of the public.			
EA OR-025-95-022	Ponderosa Ranch Exchange	The proposed action is to exchange approximately 4,700 acres of public land for 3,300 acres of private land.	T. 17,18,19 S., R. 31,32 E., Silvies Valley area, Grant and Harney Counties.	Wetlands/Riparian, cultural resources.	EA will be available for public review by the summer of 1995; decision on Phase I of the exchange expected the fall of 1995; decisions on subsequent phases would come in FY96 and FY97.
Primary Contact: Skip Renschler		The purpose of this action is to consolidate public and private lands into more manageable units, to increase public holdings and manageability of wetland, wet meadow, and riparian habitat in the Silvies Valley, to dispose of isolated tracts, and to reduce the potential for unauthorized use and trespass on public land.			
EA OR-025-95-024	Malheur River/ Bluebucket Creek Protection Project	The proposed action is to implement resource protection for special management areas.	T. 18 S., R. 34 E., Secs. 33 and 34, Bluebucket Creek and Middle Fork of the Malheur River.	Malheur River Bluebucket Creek (2-14) WSA and recommended Wild and Scenic River.	EA planned for completion in 1995.
Primary Contact: Scott Moore		The purpose of this action is to reduce livestock grazing impacts on special management areas.			



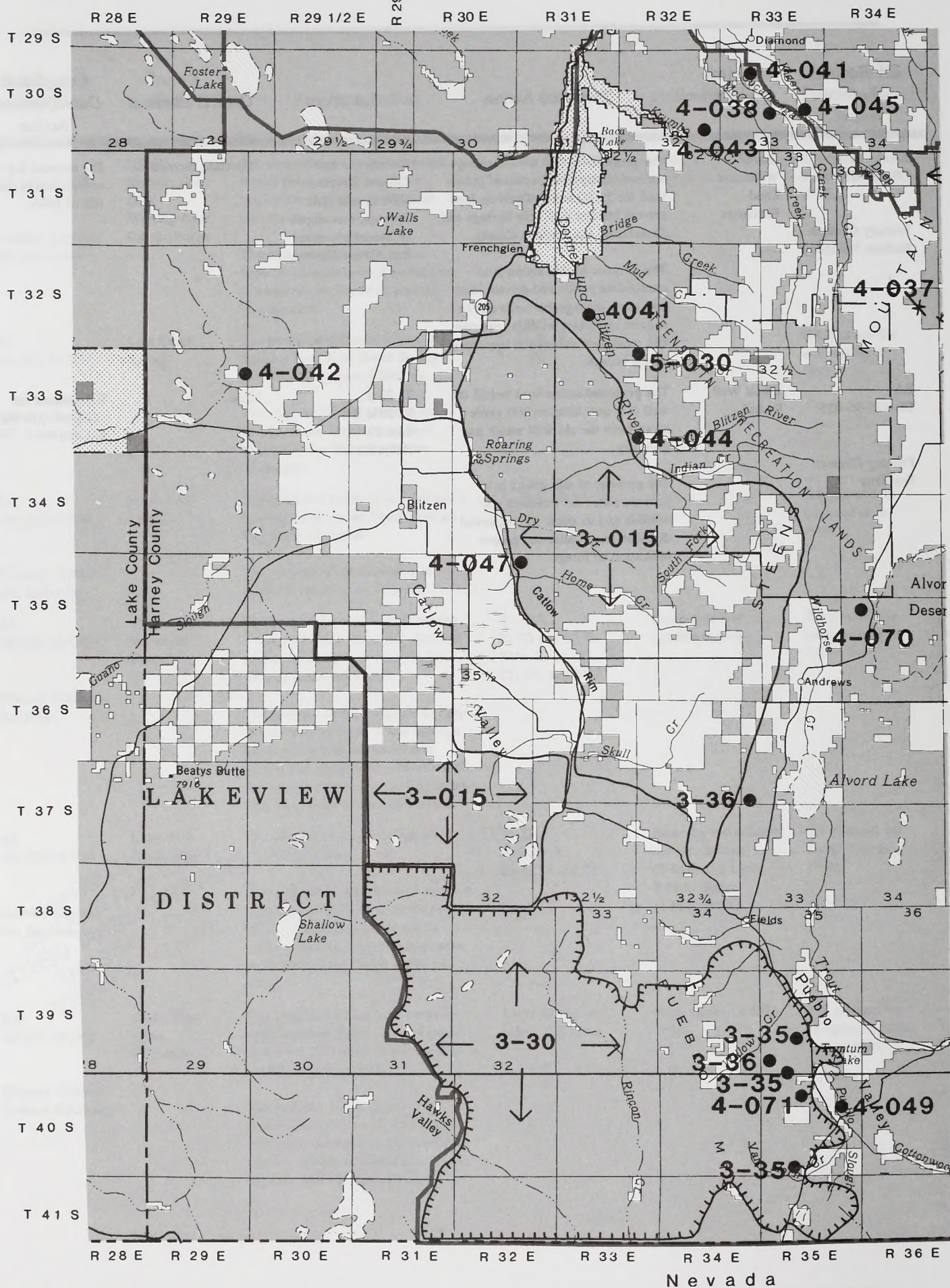
EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-025-95-026	Nicoll, Muddy, and Little Stinkingwater Creek Fences	The proposed action is to construct fences along several creeks to implement riparian management objectives.	Muddy Creek, Dry Lake, and Mountain Allotments.	None.	EA planned for completion in 1995.
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen		The purpose of this action is to improve riparian habitat conditions through proper livestock grazing management.			
EA OR-025-95-027	Lost Creek Spring	The proposed action is to install a pipeline from Lost Creek Spring to the West Wagontire Allotment.	T. 25 S., R. 23 E., Sec. 34.	None.	EA planned for completion in 1995.
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen		The purpose of this action is to provide water for livestock and wildlife in the West Wagontire Allotment.			
EA OR-025-95-028	Road Field Corral	The proposed action is to construct a holding corral in the Road Field of Dry Lake Allotment.	T. 28 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 4.	None.	EA planned for completion in 1995.
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen		The purpose of this action is to facilitate handling of livestock.			
EA OR-025-95-029	Texaco Basin Reservoir Fence	The proposed action is to construct 6 miles of fence along the west side of the Warm Springs Road in the Texaco Basin Allotment.	T. 36 S., R. 22 and 23 E., Secs. 2, 11, 22, 26, 27, 28, and 35.	Recreation and riparian habitat.	EA planned for completion in the fall of 1995.
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of this action is to keep livestock away from Warm Springs Reservoir during the recreation season and allow better utilization of the crested wheatgrass seeding in the west half of the Reservoir Pasture.			
EA OR-026-95-030	Little Fish Creek Fence	The proposed action is to construct 1.3 miles of fence.	T. 33 S., R. 32½ E., Secs. 14 and 24.	Riparian and wildlife habitat; Blitzen (2-86E) and Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSAs.	EA planned for completion in FY95.
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of this action is to allow rangeland to be grazed by livestock during the proper season and to improve utilization in riparian areas along Little Fish Creek and Grove Creek.			
EA OR-026-95-033	Otley-Kiger Land Exchange	The proposed action is to exchange approximately 7,119 acres of public land for 1,932 acres of private land in the Kiger Gorge WSA.	Kiger Gorge and Moon Hill areas.	High Steens (2-85F) WSA.	EA planned for completion in the fall of 1995.
Primary Contact: Barbara Kehrberg		The purpose of this action is to consolidate public and private land into more manageable units and to acquire important wilderness, scenic, wildlife, and riparian values.			



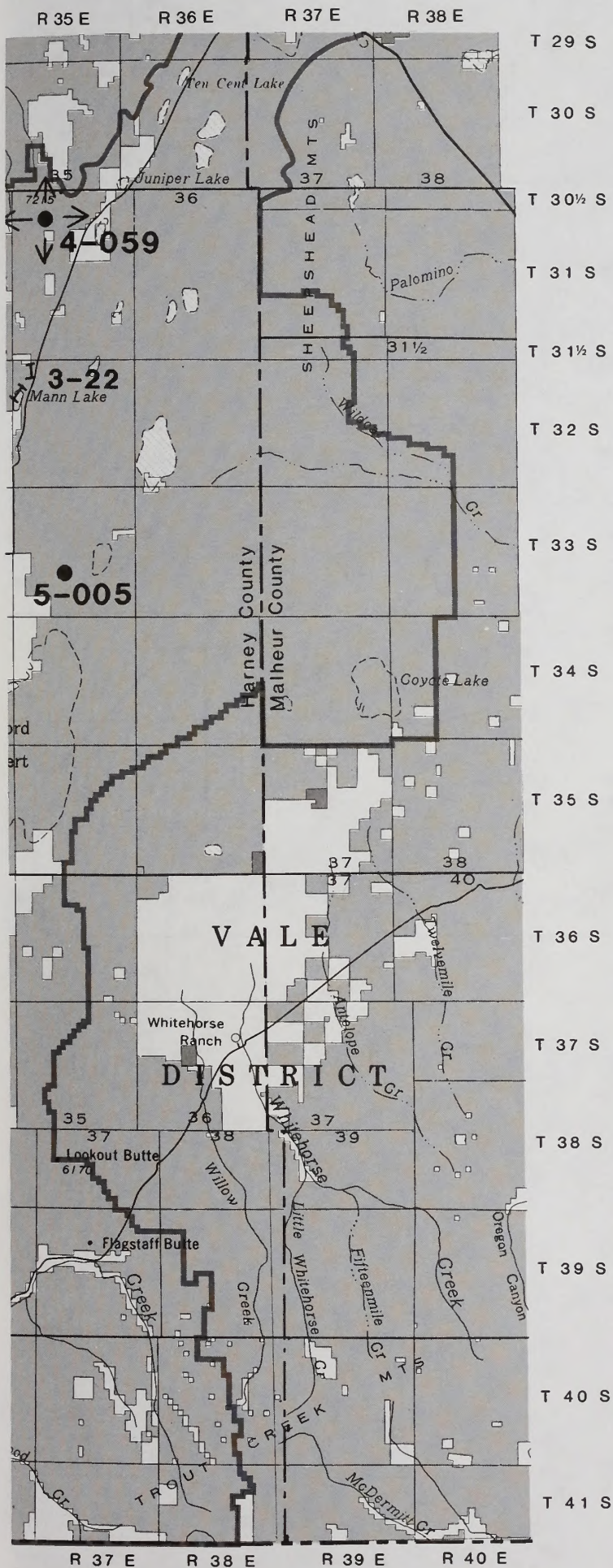
EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/Decision/ Action
EA OR-026-95-034	Davis/ Wildhorse Land Exchange	The proposed action is to exchange approximately 2,452 acres of public land for 2,160 acres of private land around Mickey and Tule Springs and Stonehouse and Carlson Creeks.	Stonehouse and Carlson Creeks; Mickey and Tule Springs; east slopes of Steens Mountain and Alvord Desert.	Riparian, recreation.	EA planned for completion in the fall of 1995.
Primary Contact: Barbara Kehrberg		The purpose of this action is to consolidate public and private land into more manageable units and to acquire important wildlife, riparian, and recreation values and important public access.			
EA OR-025-95-035	Elliott Well Redrill	The proposed action is to redrill the well in a new location 200 yards away from the old well which has gone dry.	T. 23 S., R. 28 1/4 E., Sec. 27, NW 1/4 NE 1/4.	None.	EA planned for completion in the fall of 1995.
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of this action is to provide water for livestock and wildlife and to allow for improved distribution of cattle and proper utilization of forage.			

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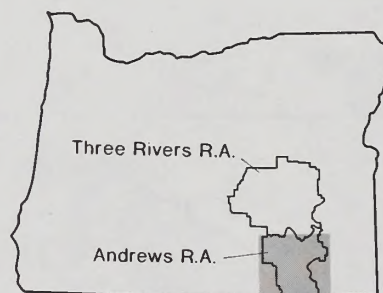






## LEGEND

- District Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- BLM Lands
- National Wildlife Refuge
- State Lands
- Private Lands
- 3-31** Environmental Assessment Number
- Spring
- Fence
- Wild Horse Gather Area
- Pipeline
- General Location of Other Projects
- Allotment Management Plan Area



BURNS DISTRICT

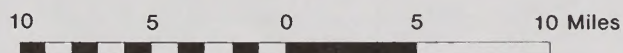
## MAP 1

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Bureau of Land Management

BURNS DISTRICT

**Andrews Resource Area**

**1995**



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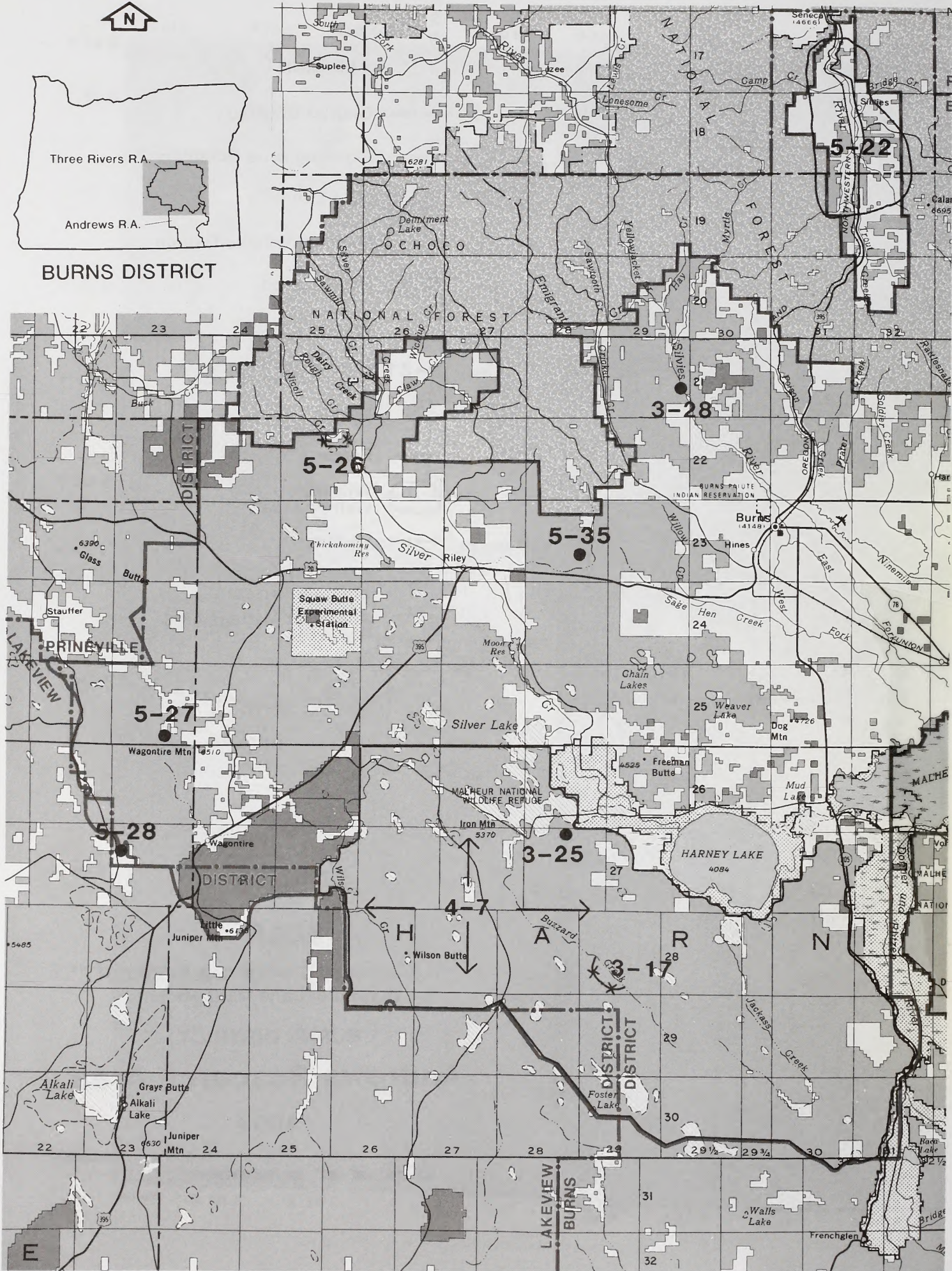




Three Rivers R.A.

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## BURNS DISTRICT





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update

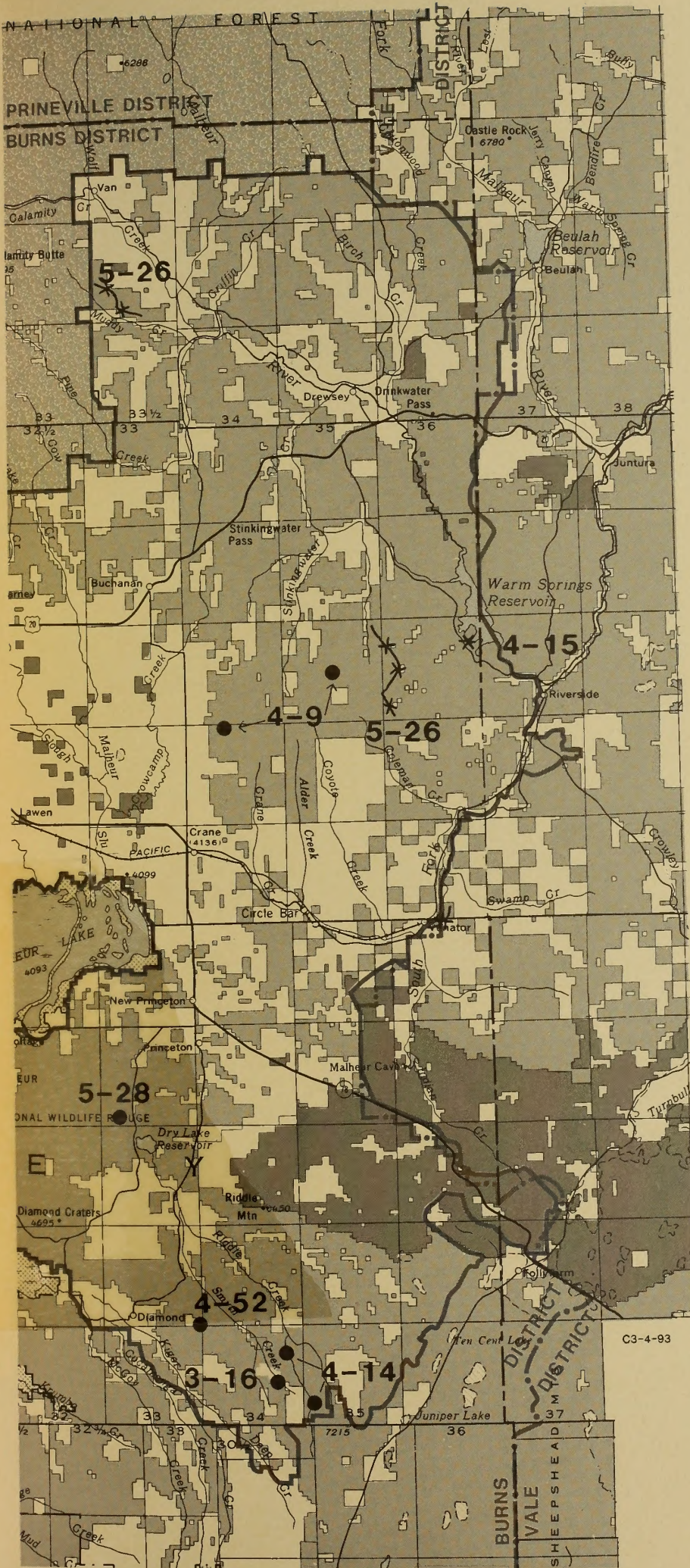
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## LEGEND

- District Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- BLM Lands
- USFS Lands
- Other Federal Lands
- State Lands
- Private Lands

- 3-42 Environmental Assessment Number
- ←○ Spring
- \*-\* Fence
- Pipeline
- ↑ Timber Sale
- Wild Horse Gather
- General Location of Other Projects

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## MAP 2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Land Management

BURNS DISTRICT

Three Rivers  
Resource Area

1995

10 0 10 Miles



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